

**National Park Service**

**Accountability Report  
Fiscal Year 2000**

**Cover**

**Featuring New NPS Arrowhead Logo Design Elements**

**National Park Service**

# **Accountability Report**

## **Fiscal Year 2000**

**Inside Cover**

**Featuring New NPS Arrowhead Logo Design Elements**

Sidebars  
throughout  
document feature  
photos and New  
NPS Arrowhead  
Logo Design  
Elements

# 2000 NPS Accountability Report

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**National Park Service**  
**2000 Accountability Report**

**MESSAGE from DIRECTOR**

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The parks are our national treasures. They are becoming ever more valuable as remnants of our nation's heritage. But they may be the last storehouses of another richness . . . the rich store of information about thousands of species and the process by which they live together.

Robert Stanton  
Director  
National Park Service

**National Park Service**  
**2000 Accountability Report**

**OVERVIEW**

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## Overview

At the beginning of the twentieth century, five national parks and one national monument, all located in the American West, represented the infancy of the national park idea. When the National Park Service (NPS) was established in 1916, it was comprised of 32 parks. Today the NPS cares for 379 diverse areas covering many millions of acres ranging halfway around the world. As steward to some of the most important natural and cultural treasures in the nation, the NPS leads the way in preserving the heritage of our country. Land and resources that the NPS is pledged to preserve and protect stand as places of unique beauty, as well as in tribute to the many important people and events that have shaped the United States throughout its considerably rich history. The NPS enriches the lives of Americans and citizens of the world by preserving the fabric of our national history and our quality of life—and making them available for public enjoyment.

## Discover the Parks

When the National Park Service was established, few could have predicted the diversity of the land and cultural resources that comprise the National Park System. In the year 2000, the national parks that existed in 1900—Yellowstone, Sequoia, Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Mount Rainier National Parks and Casa Grande Ruins National Monument—share the company of diverse park units. National historic sites and memorials reflect on the lives of our nation's presidents and leaders. National battlefields recall the events and sacrifices of wars fought on American lands in the pursuit of freedom. National recreation areas provide relaxation and reflection in lands and waters of pristine natural beauty.

Other additions to the National Park System include such unique sites as Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, the only park established to focus on conservation themes. Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site features the life and work of America's foremost sculptor in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Homestead National Monument of America is a memorial to the pioneers who settled the West. Little Rock High School National Historic Site is a national emblem of the violent struggle over school desegregation. At Carl Sandburg National Historic Site, the rooms of the home are filled with the presence of a spirited man whose writings echoed the voice of the American people. John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, which showcases a fossil record of plants and animals spanning more than 40 million years, is one of several units in the National Park System that features important paleontological areas.

If few could have predicted the diversity of the land and cultural resources that comprise the National Park System today, fewer could have foreseen the breadth of issues the parks now face. Natural resource management responsibilities have grown exponentially in an era of ecological awareness and commitment to preservation. Resources are threatened by a variety of considerations such as pollution, population encroachment on park boundaries, fragmentation, and wildlife issues.

The responsibility of resource management is huge, and the tasks the NPS faces are enormous. Some parks contain outstanding or rare examples of geologic landforms or biotic areas, places of exceptional ecological or geological diversity, sites with concentrated populations of rare plant or animal species, or unusually abundant fossil deposits. Congaree Swamp National Monument, for example, contains the last significant tract of virgin bottomland hardwoods in the Southeast. Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve includes a diverse tidelands area. National Park of American Samoa contains tropical rainforests, beaches, and coral reefs.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park continues to inventory what scientists estimate will be over 100,000 species of flora and fauna. Big Thicket National Preserve includes dense growths of diverse plant species of great botanical interest at the crossroads of several North American plant and animal habitats. In the late 1970s, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) gave the National Park System more than 47 million acres of parks comprised of eight national parks, two national monuments, ten national preserves, two national historical parks, and a wild river.

The task of preserving cultural resources has taken on the same urgency. Historical parks associated with persons, events, or themes of national importance encompass structures or features of great intrinsic or representational value; or, they contain archeological resources of major scientific consequence. National Park Service cultural resource management programs assure the integrity of the resources so they are not altered, deteriorated, or otherwise impaired to a level that the public cannot readily appreciate their significance. The inventory of classified structures in need of significant repair includes over 12,000 structures. Newer parks, such as the 22-building agricultural complex, Cane River Creole National Historical Park, are just beginning their preservation efforts.

The field of interpretation is evolving as well. Multimedia exhibits provide information in new and innovative ways. Living history programs, ranging from military demonstrations to farming, bring the parks to life. Military parks are expanding interpretation to include societal context in addition to military campaigns fought in the parks. There are concerted efforts to remediate natural and cultural landscapes to reflect the era being represented in the park. For example, those who perceived the 307-foot observation tower at Gettysburg battlefield symbolized the worst of commercial intrusions upon America's sacred places encouraged its removal.

Environmental interpretation, emphasizing ecological relationships, and special environmental education programs for school classes reflect and promote the Nation's growing environmental awareness.

To compound the enormity of the responsibility to preserve resources, nearly all park units contain both historic and cultural resources of (at least) local significance. Big Cypress National Preserve, for example, was established primarily to protect the freshwater supply essential to the Everglades ecosystem. It contains abundant tropical plant and animal life. However, it also continues to serve the Miccosukee and Seminole Indian tribes for subsistence hunting, fishing, and trapping and traditional ceremonies. National seashores, such as Cape Hatteras National Seashore, are home to complex and changing ecosystems as well as vintage and historic structures such as lighthouses.

Now in its eighty-fourth year of existence, the National Park System remains the premier park system in the world. Within the System are a remarkable array of the nation's greatest natural and historic places as well as recreational areas of outstanding attraction. Not every park is a Yellowstone; not every historic site boasts an Independence Hall. However, all preserve resources and all feature values that make them something special. The mission of the National Park Service is to protect and preserve these resources for the enjoyment of future generations. With good reason, the National Park System is among America's proudest and best-loved creations.



## Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and intrinsic values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The NPS cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

### National Park Service Mission Guiding Principles

<b>Excellent Service</b>	Providing the best possible service to park visitors and partners.
<b>Productive Partnerships</b>	Collaborating with Federal, state, tribal, and local governments, private organizations, and businesses to work toward common goals.
<b>Citizen Involvement</b>	Providing opportunities for citizens to participate in the decisions and actions of the National Park Service.
<b>Heritage Education</b>	Educating park visitors and the general public about their history and common heritage.
<b>Outstanding Employees</b>	Empowering a diverse workforce committed to excellence, integrity, and quality work.
<b>Employee Development</b>	Providing developmental opportunities and training so employees have the “tools to do the job” safely and efficiently.
<b>Wise Decisions</b>	Integrating social, economic, environmental, and ethical considerations into the decision making process.
<b>Effective Management</b>	Instilling a performance management philosophy that fosters creativity, focuses on results, and requires accountability at all levels.
<b>Research and Technology</b>	Incorporating research findings and new technologies to improve work practices, products, and services.
<b>Shared Capabilities</b>	Sharing technical information and expertise with public and private land managers.

## Strategic Goals and Results

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)<sup>1</sup> requires the National Park Service to have a strategic plan that includes a comprehensive statement of mission as well as outcome related goals and objectives to fulfill that mission. In FY 2000, the NPS updated its Strategic Plan to cover the years 2001-2005. National Park Service annual goals are published in the Annual Performance Plan. Agency accomplishments are published in the Annual Performance Report.

As articulated in the Strategic Plan, the mission goals of the NPS fall into three mission-related categories: 1) preserve park resources; 2) provide for the public enjoyment and visitor experience of parks; and 3) strengthen and preserve natural and cultural resources, and enhance recreational opportunities managed by partners. Within the three mission-related categories, four annual performance goals were selected to highlight the NPS accomplishments for FY 2000.

### 1. Preserve Park Resources

This goal category marks NPS commitment that natural and cultural resources and associated values are preserved, restored, and maintained in good condition as well as managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural context. Goals in this category relate to Departmental Goal 1: *Protect the Environment and Preserve Our Nation's Natural and Cultural Resources*. This goal category includes the concepts of biological and cultural diversity. Long-term goals include the preservation, restoration, or maintenance of ecosystems, rare plant and animal populations, archeological and ethnographic resources, world heritage sites, historic structures and objects, research collections, cultural traditions, and subsistence activities relevant to the purpose and/or significance of the site.

In addition to the goals that deal directly with preserving the resource, this goal category also includes goals regarding National Park Service contributions to scholarly and scientific research. The National Park Service has fundamental information needs for making decisions about managing natural and cultural resources within the System.

Two performance goals were selected to highlight the accomplishments in preserving natural and cultural resources.

#### Goal 1a1 – Disturbed Lands/Exotic Species

*Long-term goal: By September 30, 2002, 21 percent of targeted disturbed parklands, as of 1997, are restored; and, 12.5 percent of priority targeted disturbances are contained.*

This goal addresses resource conditions in parks. Activities to meet this goal include restoration of lands impacted by former uses and containment of invasive plant species. Disturbed lands are those parklands where the natural processes were impacted by development, such as roads and mines, and by invasion of alien plant species. Performance targets for this goal were adjusted up from the original plan due to accomplishments reported in FY 1999.

*FY 2000 Annual Goal: By September 30, 2000, 1) 16.8 percent of targeted disturbed parklands, as of 1997, are restored; and, 2) 10 percent of priority targeted disturbances are contained.*

The NPS projected that it would restore 16.8 percent of the 241,000 acres of lands disturbed from earlier development, or nearly 40,500 acres. Actual accomplishment is 38,300 acres of disturbed lands restored, or 94.5 percent of the projection. The NPS also projected that it would restore 10 percent of nearly 1,890,200 acres of lands impacted by exotic species, or nearly 189,400 acres. Actual accomplishment is 196,119 acres of exotic species impacted acres restored, or 103 percent of the projection.

<sup>1</sup>GPRA was passed in 1993 to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness by requiring agencies to define their mission goals and identify long- and short-term program goals through strategic planning, and to measure and evaluate program performance through annual accountability reports to the American people.

## Goal Ia5 – Historic Structures

*Long-term goal: By September 30, 2002, 50 percent of the historic structures on the 1998 List of Classified Structures are in good condition.*

The objective of this goal is to increase the number of structures listed on the 1998 List of Classified Structures (LCS) that are in “good” condition.

*FY 2000 Annual Goal: By September 30, 2000, 10,900 of the 23,167 LCS structures are in good condition (47 percent).*

In 2000, the NPS improved the condition of 465 structures, bringing the number of structures on the LCS in good condition to 11,124 or 48 percent of all structures of the LCS (102 percent of projection.).

## 2. Provide for the Public Enjoyment and Visitor Experience of Parks

The objectives in this goal category are inclusive of the mandate in the NPS Organic Act “ . . . to provide for the enjoyment of the (resources) in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” The goal category includes all NPS goals for visitor satisfaction, enjoyment, safety, appreciation, and understanding. These goals relate to Departmental Goal 2: *Provide Recreation for America.*

These goals cover the broad range of visitor experience in the parks. Enjoyment of the parks and their resources is a fundamental part of the visitor experience. Visitor enjoyment and safety are affected by the quality of park programs, facilities and services, whether provided by the NPS, a concessioner, or a contractor.

Visitors’ park experiences grow from enjoying the park and its resources to understanding why the park exists and the

significance of those resources. Satisfactory visitor experiences build public support for preserving this country’s heritage and help develop a better understanding of the diversity of experiences and peoples that built a nation.

Serving the visitors requires that the NPS maintain a physical inventory containing approximately 16,000 permanent structures (buildings), 8,000 miles of roads, 1,500 bridges and tunnels, 5,000 housing units, approximately 1,500 water and wastewater systems, 200 radio systems, over 400 dams, and more than 200 solid waste operations. These facilities must be maintained at an operational level that ensures safe use by the visitor and continued protection, preservation, and serviceability.

One performance goal was selected to represent the accomplishments in serving the visitor.

## Goal IIa1 – Visitor Satisfaction

*Long-term goal: By September 30, 2002, 95 percent of park visitors are satisfied with appropriate park facilities, services, and recreational opportunities.*

This goal addresses visitor satisfaction. While many factors affect visitor use and enjoyment, this goal focuses on providing the facilities, services, and recreational opportunities for visitor use, comfort, and enjoyment. Servicewide baseline and performance information is derived from the Visitor Services Project annual surveys. Facilities, services, and recreational opportunities identified by visitors as “good” and “very good” define “satisfied.”

*FY 2000 Annual Goal: By September 30, 2000, maintain 95 percent of park visitors satisfied with appropriate park facilities, services, and recreational opportunities.*

The NPS met its projected results for annual surveys of visitor satisfaction for a 95 percent satisfaction rate Servicewide.

### 3. Benefit from Partnerships

This goal category focuses on the many partnership programs legislated under the National Historic Preservation Act, the Historic Sites Act, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and others. Natural and cultural resources include properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, wild and scenic rivers, national trails, national landmarks, and heritage and recreation areas.

These goals address the results of a broad range of programs that assist others to preserve our natural and cultural and recreational resources. These programs encompass formal partnership programs with over 60 other Federal agencies, 59 states and territories, more than 1,000 local governments, over 300 Indian tribes, foreign governments, private organizations, friends groups, academic institutions, and the general public. These goals include increasing the number of significant historic, archeological, and natural properties protected and improving customer satisfaction with technical assistance provided by the National Park Service.

Some goals relate only to recreational opportunities external to the National Park System through the provision of conservation assistance for adding miles of trails and rivers, and acres of parks and open space, to meet America's outdoor recreation needs, and through improving community satisfaction with NPS partnership assistance. In addition to assisting others develop recreational resources, the NPS also assures that transferred Federal lands or land purchased by Federal dollars for recreational purposes continue to serve their role for improving the recreational opportunities available. One performance goal was selected to represent the accomplishments in this goal category.

#### Goal IIIb1 – Conservation Assistance

*Long-term goal: By September 30, 2002, 3,600 additional miles of trails, 3,600 additional miles of protected river*

*corridors, and 125,000 additional acres of parks and open space, from 1997 totals, are conserved with NPS partnership assistance.*

This goal tracks results of NPS technical assistance to states, communities, and non-profit organizations to protect additional resources and to provide increased local recreational opportunities.

*FY 2000 Annual Goal: By September 30, 2000, an additional 2,600 miles of trails, an additional 2,100 miles of protected river corridor, and an additional 61,300 acres of park and open space, over the 1998 totals, are conserved with NPS partnership assistance.*

Based on information provided by state and local partners, nearly 6,270 acres of trails were added (134 percent of projection), 2,540 linear miles of river corridor were added (121 percent of projection), and 655,500 acres of park and open space were added (1,069 percent of projection). The significant increase in park and open space acreage was due to significant increases reported by Alaska and National Heritage lands.

### 4. Implementation of Performance Management

The National Park Service will continue to evaluate its goals and its progress in achieving them, resulting in a firm basis for improving agency effectiveness and efficiency. This is a dynamic process. The current budget structure of the NPS is not aligned with the GPRA goals of the organization. Until the budget structure is revised, the relationship will continue to be indirect, although still useful.

### National Park Service Government Performance and Results Act Accomplishments, 2000 - Selected Performance Measures

Department of the Interior Goal	NPS GPRA Goal Category	NPS Performance Measure	NPS 2000 Performance Goal	NPS 2000 Achievement	Percent of Goal
Protect the Environment and Preserve our Nation's Natural and Cultural Resources	Preserve Park Resources	<b>Ia1.</b> Disturbed Lands Restoration/ Containment	1) By September 30, 2000, 16.8% of targeted disturbed parklands, as of 1997, are restored.	15.9% of identified disturbed lands restored	94.5%
			2) By September 30, 2000, 10.0% of priority targeted disturbances are contained.	10.4% of exotic species impacted acres restored	103%
		<b>Ia5.</b> Historic Structures	By September 30, 2000, 47% of the historic structures on the 1998 List of Classified Structures are in good condition.	48% of structures listed on the LCS are in good condition	102%
Provide Recreation for America	Provide for Public Enjoyment and Visitor Experience of Parks	<b>Ila1.</b> Visitor Satisfaction	By September 30, 2000, 95% of park visitors are satisfied with appropriate park facilities, services, and recreational opportunities.	95% of visitors satisfied	100%
	Benefit from Partnerships	<b>IIIb1.</b> Conservation Assistance	By September 30, 2000 an additional 2,600 miles of trails, 2,100 additional miles of protected river corridor, and an additional 61,300 acres of park and open space, over the 1998 totals, are conserved with NPS partnership assistance.	Conserved an additional 6,270 acres of trails, 2,540 linear miles of protected river corridor, and 655,500 acres of park and open space	134%, 121% and 1,069%, respectively

## Size and Composition

The National Park System now consists of 379 units encompassing more than 83 million acres of land in every state except Delaware, as well as in the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The national significance of these areas justifies their special recognition and protection in accordance with various acts of Congress.

National Park System units now bear some 20 designations. *National park* commonly identifies the largest, most spectacular natural areas. *National seashore*, *national lakeshore*, *national river*, and *national scenic trail* are self-explanatory designations. In contrast, the *national monument* title—applied to large natural areas such as Dinosaur and small cultural sites such as the Statue of Liberty—is less descriptive. Some historic forts are *national monuments* while others are national historic sites. Similarly, historic battlefields are variously identified as *national military parks*, *national battlefields*, and *national battlefield parks*, among other titles.

These designations are rooted in the National Park System's legislative and administrative history. Some designations provide greater protection for the resource by limiting use or access. Where distinctions in title denote no real differences in character or management policy, the designations usually reflect changes in fashion over time. Historical areas that once would have been named national monuments, for example, more recently have been titled national historic sites if small, or national historical parks if large.

Additions to the National Park System are made now through acts of Congress. National parks can be created only through such acts. However, the President has authority, under the Antiquities Act of 1906, to proclaim national monuments on lands already under Federal jurisdiction. The Secretary of the Interior is usually asked by Congress for recommendations on



proposed additions to the System. The Secretary is counseled by the National Park System Advisory Board, composed of private citizens, which advises on possible additions to the System and policies for its management.

On November 29, 1999, Congress established the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in South Dakota as the 379<sup>th</sup> unit of the National Park System. The NPS will preserve, protect, and interpret the Minuteman II launch facility to tell the story of how the Minuteman Missile played a strategic role in our national defense during the Cold War. The Minuteman II intercontinental ballistic missile launch control facility and launch facility known as Delta 1 and Delta 9, respectively, have national significance as the best preserved examples of the operational character of American Cold War history.

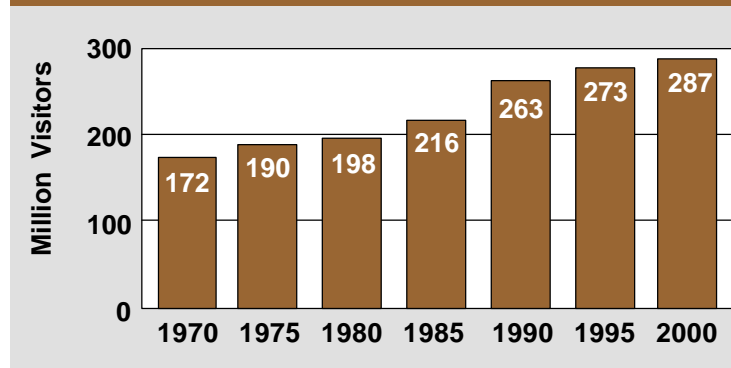
By act of Congress October 21, 1999, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument was abolished as such and the lands and interests therein were incorporated within and made a part of the new Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. The newest national park includes lands adjacent to the former national monument once under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. The NPS will also administer the Black Canyon of the Gunnison Wilderness as a part of the park.

10" x 7" Map of NPS Units in United States

## Visitation

Visitation continues to reach historic highs. Visitation in 1999, the latest year for which data is available, reached over 287 million, a slight increase over 1998 visitation. Both annual figures approach the 1987 record high. The National Park System has witnessed a significant growth in visitation over the course of its history, most recently during the 1980s, when visitation first climbed above 250 million visitors per year. Before the increase in visitation during the three years 1997-1999, growth in visitation remained unchanged during most of that decade.

NPS Recreational Visits per Year



Parks with the highest individual visitation totals are parkways and recreational areas near major urban areas, but other types of parks are also popular destinations. The top 25 visited parks account for 50 percent of visitation. Among the top 25 visited parks are “natural resource” parks, “cultural resource” parks, sites on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., national seashores, and the Statue of Liberty complex.

Top 25 Visited Parks in the National Park System, 1999

Type of Park Unit	Park	Location	Visitation
<b>National Recreation Areas</b>	Golden Gate NRA	AZ	14,048,085
	Lake Mead NRA	AZ/NV	9,023,943
	Gateway NRA	NY/NJ	6,813,606
	Delaware Gap NRA	NJ/PA	4,953,427
	Cuyahoga Valley NRA	OH	3,324,284
<b>Natural Resource Parks</b>	Great Smoky Mountains NP	NC/TN	10,283,598
	Grand Canyon NP	AZ	4,575,124
	Yosemite NP	CA	3,493,607
	Olympic NP	WA	3,364,266
	Rocky Mountain NP	CO	3,186,323
	Yellowstone NP	MT/WY	3,131,381
<b>Cultural Resource Parks</b>	San Francisco Maritime NHP	CA	3,535,315
	Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (the Arch in St. Louis)	MO	3,481,042
	Colonial NHP	VA	3,136,262
<b>Memorials on the National Mall</b>	Viet Nam Memorial	DC	4,442,238
	Lincoln Memorial	DC	4,099,480
	Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial	DC	3,453,171
	Korean War Veterans Memorial	DC	3,249,688
<b>Parkways</b>	Blue Ridge Parkway	NC/VA	19,836,842
	George Washington Memorial Parkway	VA	6,946,945
	Natchez Trace Parkway	AL/MS/TN	6,392,961
<b>National Seashores</b>	Cape Cod NS	MA	4,915,414
	Gulf Islands NS	FL/MS	4,597,270
<b>Statue of Liberty Complex</b>	Statue of Liberty NM and Ellis Island	NJ/NY	5,370,015
	Castle Clinton NM	NY	4,467,492



Park visitation varies enormously from park to park. For example, Blue Ridge Parkway welcomes almost 20 million visitors per year while Frederick Law Olmstead National Historic Site receives just over 8,200 visitors. The size, nature, location, and age of each park accounts for the variation in park visitation. These factors also dictate budget levels, management policy, and visitor services. For more information about park visitation view the NPS Public Use Statistics website at < [www2.nature.nps.gov/stats](http://www2.nature.nps.gov/stats) >.

## Visitor Services

Visitors are an integral part of the National Park System. National parks are established to encourage and service visitation and, conversely, visitation drives the services that are made available in the different parks. The increasing visitation to the National Park System is making it more difficult for the NPS to fulfill its dual mission to provide for the enjoyment of national parks while conserving resources for future generations. Concern over rising visitation in parks and accompanying impacts on resources has led the NPS to focus on the concept of carrying capacity and its implication for visitor use management. The concept of carrying capacity is intended to safeguard the quality of both the park resources and the visitor experience.

In meeting the growing demands of visitation, the NPS has increased efforts to educate visitors while continuing to maintain the parks. A primary goal is help visitors realize their individual connections to park resources. The National Park Service has also redoubled its efforts to educate young people and other individuals not traditionally active in national parks. Through a variety of outreach, research, and education programs, the National Park Service will strengthen the connection between all visitors and the parks.

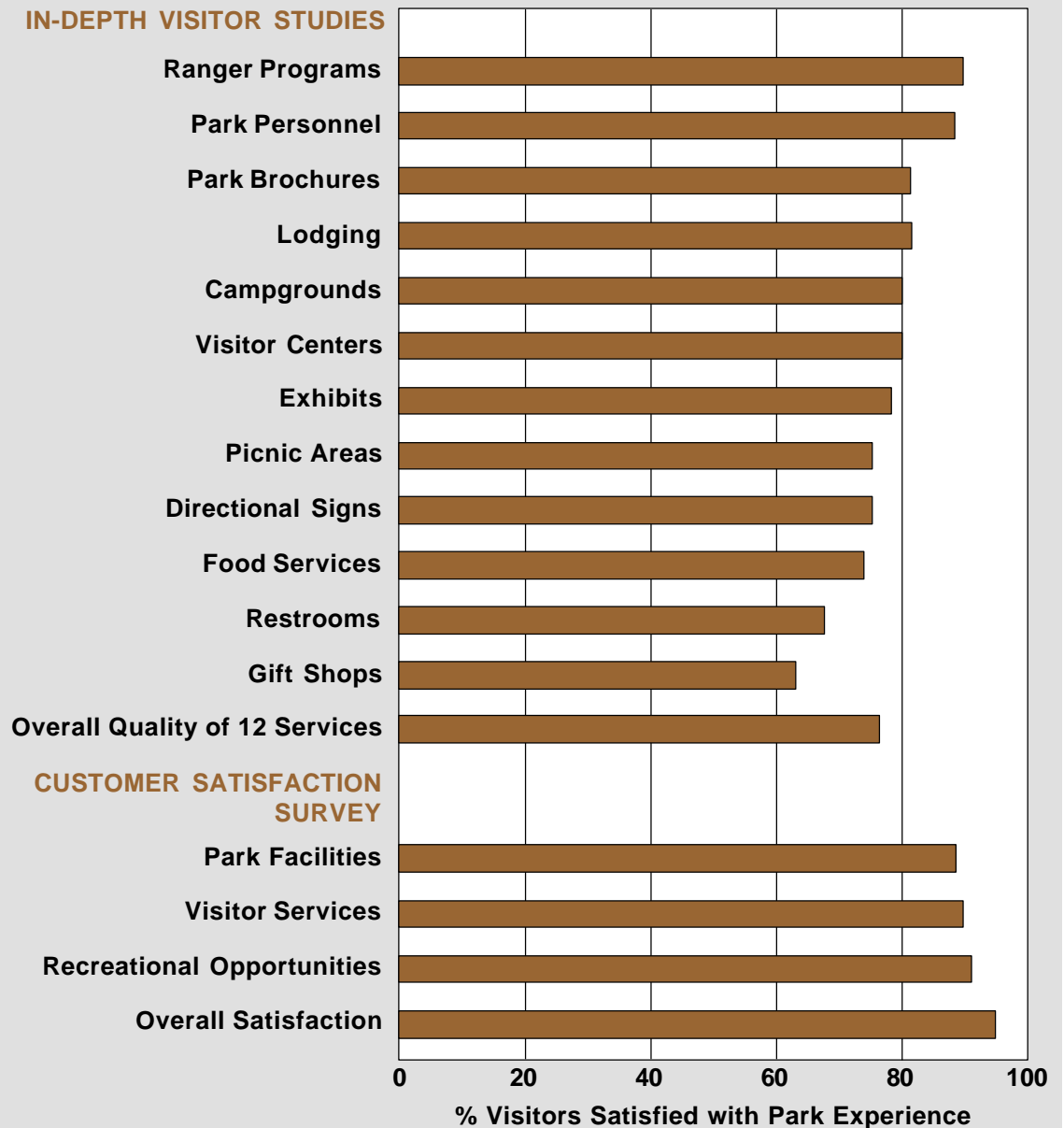
1999 NPS Visitation Statistics	
Annual Visitation	Number of Parks
1 Million or More	74
Between 1 Million and 100,000	148
Less than 100,000	119
Less than 10,000	20
Do Not Report Visitation	38

## Customer Satisfaction

In-house studies show that visitors continue to be satisfied with the quality of services in the National Park System. In-depth visitor studies at a sample of park units indicate that visitors experience the highest satisfaction ratings (a measure of *good* or *very good*) with ranger programs and contacts with park personnel (90 percent and 88 percent respectively). Satisfaction ratings were progressively lower for brochures, lodging, campgrounds, visitor centers, exhibits, picnic areas, directional signs, food services, restrooms, and gift shops (the lowest satisfaction ranking leveling off at 63 percent). The combined overall rating for the quality of the 12 services is 77 percent (1 percent lower than the previous year).

A customer satisfaction survey at all National Park System units rates visitor satisfaction in three general categories: park facilities, visitor services, and recreational opportunities. Although based primarily on ratings of the same services analyzed in the in-depth studies, visitor satisfaction ratings from the comprehensive survey are generally higher than the in-depth studies. Satisfaction ratings from the survey range from 88 percent to 92 percent. The overall satisfaction rating is a separate factor rather than a combination of all the other ratings. In the survey, overall visitor satisfaction reached 94 percent, just under the goal established by the NPS to achieve 95 percent customer satisfaction. This measure is used as the primary measure of visitor satisfaction for GPRA purposes.

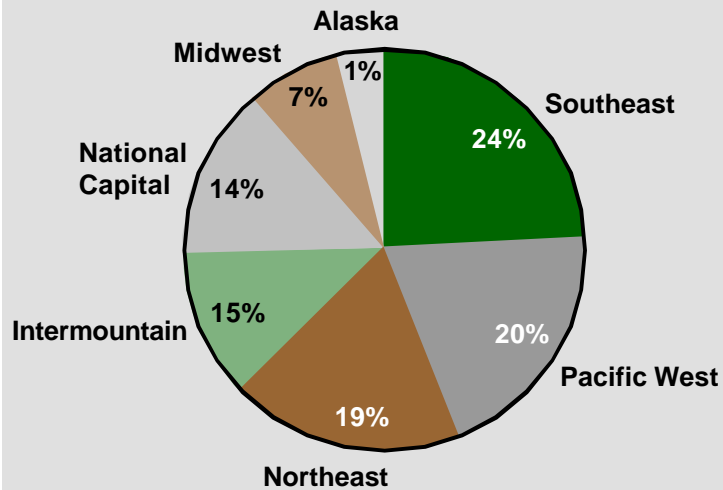
### National Park Service Selected Visitor Satisfaction Measures Source: *Serving the Visitor 1999*



## Organization and Leadership

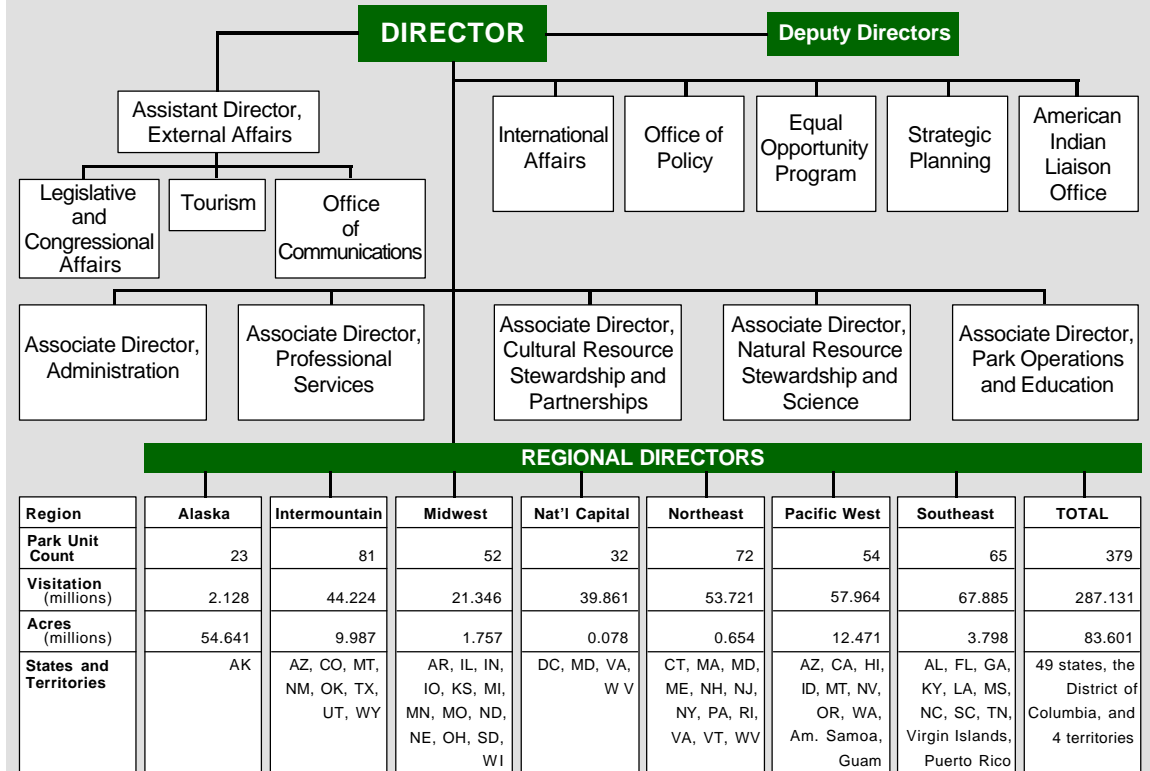
The National Park Service is administered by a Director who, upon Senate confirmation, is responsible to the Secretary of the Interior. The Director is assisted by two Deputy Directors and an Assistant Director of External Affairs in charge of offices for Legislative and Congressional Affairs, Tourism, and the Office of Communications. There are also offices of International Affairs, Equal Opportunity, Policy, Strategic Planning, and American Indian Liaison which report to the Director.

**NPS Visitation by Region, 1999**



Total Visitors = 287 Million

## Organization of the National Park Service, 2000



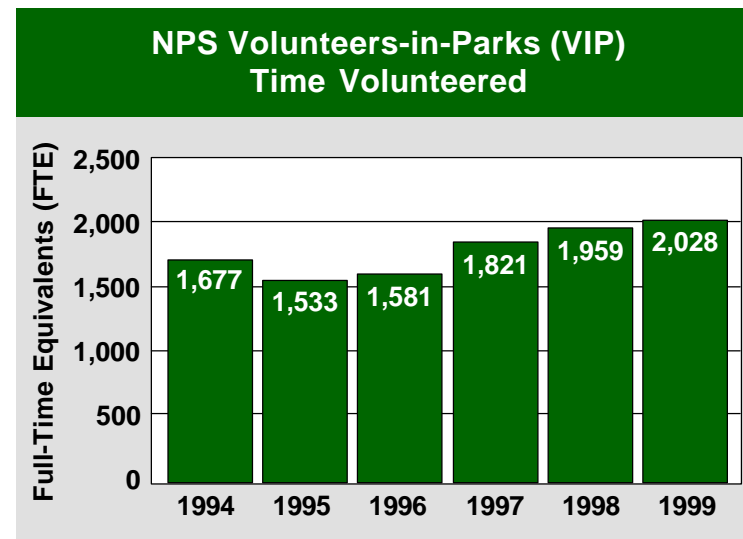
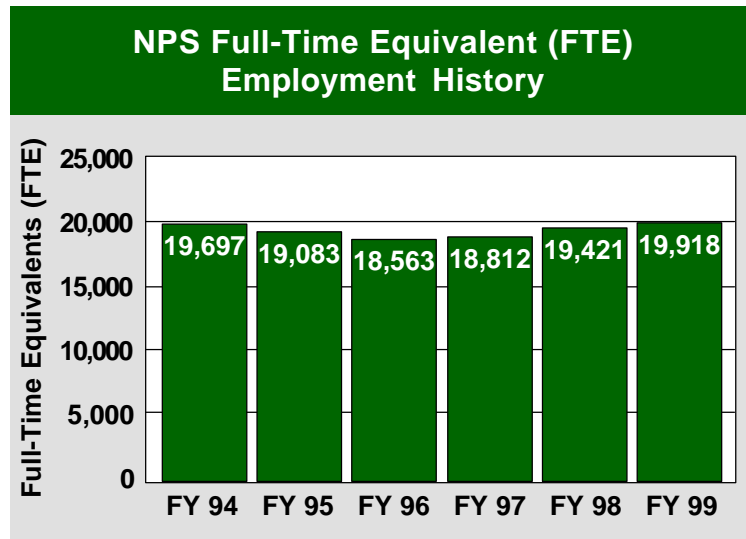
Visitation is FY 1999. Acreage figures as of 9/30/99. Acreage total includes 214,528 acres on Appalachian Trail not included in regions.

The National Park System is organized into seven regions: Alaska, Intermountain, Midwest, National Capital, Northeast, Pacific West and Southeast. Each is headed by a Regional Director who provides line supervision for all park superintendents within the region. There are also 10 support offices distributed among the regions. The National Leadership Council (NLC), composed of the Director, two Deputy Directors, five Associate Directors, and the seven Regional Directors, sets policy and the overall direction for the National Park Service. The NLC forms the executive decision-making group involving the NPS as a whole.

## Staffing

In FY 1999, the latest year for which data is available, the National Park Service used 19,918 full-time equivalents (FTE), a 2.6 percent increase over the previous fiscal year and a record high. The FTE count equates to an on-board strength of over 25,000 employees during the summer months when visitation is at its peak. The growth in personnel, which was entirely at the park level, was supported by increased park base funding provided in FY 1999, coupled with the increase in funding available through the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program.

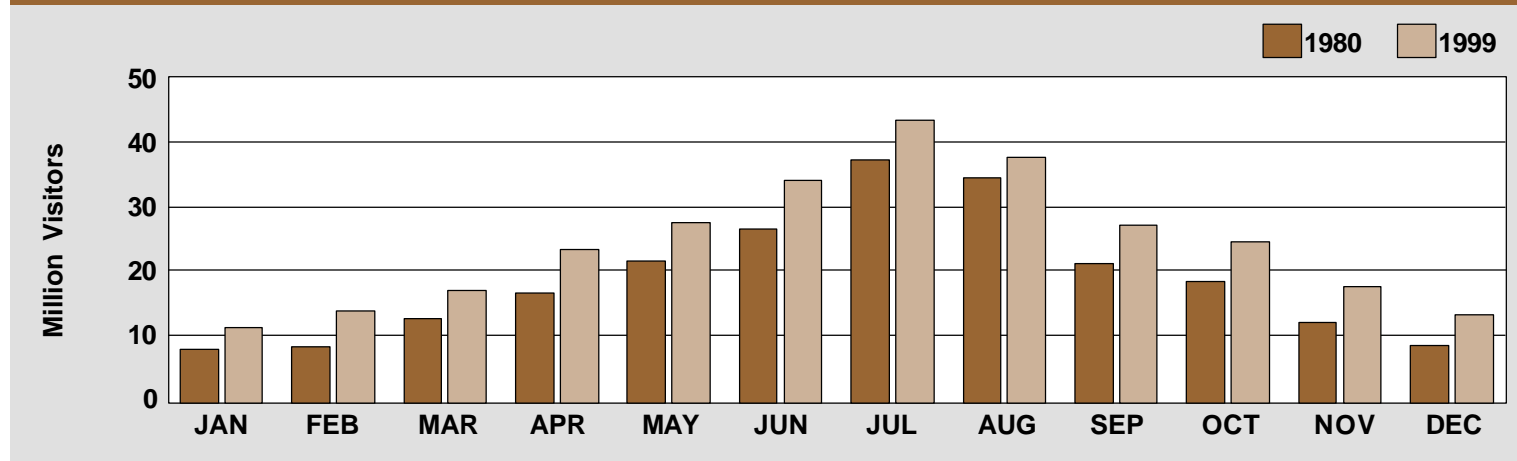
The Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP) Program continues to prove a major force in accomplishing the National Park Service mission. Contributions vary with the volunteer whose skills are used. Volunteers, for example, staff information desks, help advise and assist hikers, manage and restore wetlands, and conduct surveys. During FY 1999, the latest year for which data is available, 115,300 volunteers contributed an equivalent of 2,028 FTE in service to the NPS, more than 4.2 million hours of service. On average, each volunteer contributes just under 37 hours per year towards the NPS mission.



Parks are generally perceived as summer destinations, but they are increasingly welcoming visitors throughout the year. The advent of year-round use of the parks has fueled a change in the ratios of permanent to temporary employees. Since 1982, the number of non-permanent employees has declined 7 percent (31 percent to 24 percent) as a percentage of total NPS

workforce. The change in visitation patterns are evident when comparing monthly visitation for 1980 and 1999. Data show that while every month has shown increased traffic, significant increases are occurring during “off-season” months more than in the summer “peak” months. Increases in visitation are particularly acute in the months of February, March, and April.

### National Park Service Change in Monthly Visitation



## NPS Funding

Congress funds the National Park Service through discretionary appropriations. In addition, there are a number of mandatory, indefinite, permanent appropriations, and trust funds which automatically become available to the NPS by authorizing laws.

### Discretionary Appropriations

In FY 2000, discretionary appropriations totaled \$1.83 billion, a 2.2 percent increase over FY 1999. The NPS received five distinct appropriations in FY 2000: Operation of the National

Park System (ONPS), Construction, Land Acquisition and State Assistance, National Recreation and Preservation (NR&P), and the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). Funding increases for ONPS (5.6 percent), NR&P (13.5 percent), and HPF (3.2 percent) were offset by declines in appropriations for Construction and Land Acquisition. Of the \$76.3 million increase in funding for ONPS, \$29.1 million supported park base operations, \$24.0 million covered uncontrollable cost increases (mostly salaries and benefits), and the remainder expanded Servicewide programs such as natural resource management.

## Additional Funding Sources

Several mandatory, indefinite, permanent appropriations, trust funds, and other sources of funding are automatically available to the National Park Service without the need for Congressional appropriations. In FY 2000, revenue from mandatory "Permanents and Trusts" totaled \$232.9 million.

Interagency agreements also provide funds in exchange for specialized services provided by National Park Service staff. In FY 2000, funding sources separate from appropriations and "Permanents and Trusts" totaled \$158.1 million. The decrease from 1999 reflects declines in "reimbursable" funding connected to funding for Year 2000 (Y2K) computer issues and Federal land acquisition that had been provided to the Secretary of the Interior through Congressional appropriations.

The full amount available to the National Park Service from all the above sources during FY 2000 was \$2.223 billion. Amounts and descriptions of all funding sources are provided in the table to the right and the Notes on NPS Funding Sources on the following pages.

National Park Service FY 2000 Funding, All Sources	
Funding Source	Funding (\$000)
<u>Discretionary Appropriations</u>	
1) Operation of the National Park System	\$ 1,361,979
2) Construction	221,191
3) Land Acquisition and State Assistance	120,700
4) National Recreation and Preservation	53,399
5) Historic Preservation Fund	74,793
SUBTOTAL, Discretionary Appropriations	1,832,062
<u>Permanents and Trusts</u>	
6) Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriations	151,633
7) Concessions Improvement Accounts	30,494
8) Other Permanent Appropriations	32,339
9) Miscellaneous Trust Funds	18,418
SUBTOTAL, Permanents and Trusts	232,884
<u>Permanent Contract Authority for Land Acquisition</u>	
10) Land and Water Conservation Fund	30,000
Rescission	(30,000)
SUBTOTAL, Permanent Contract Authority	0
<u>Other Revenue</u>	
11) Net Transfers from Other Accounts	6,354
12) Temporary Transfers for Fire Management	(70,631)
13) Allocations from Departmental Funds	
Wildland Fire Management	81,390
Central Hazardous Materials Fund	1,217
14) Reimbursables	139,807
SUBTOTAL, Other Revenue	158,137
SUBTOTAL, Funding Other than Discretionary Appropriations	391,021
<b>TOTAL, NPS Funding Sources</b>	<b>\$ 2,223,083</b>
<u>Non-NPS Funds Used for NPS Purposes</u>	
15) Federal Land Highways Program	\$ 143,715

## Descriptions and Notes on NPS Funding Sources

### 1. Operation of the National Park System

This annual (one-year) appropriation funds all operational, maintenance, and administrative costs for parks, field areas, and the Washington D.C. headquarters office.

### 2. Construction

The Construction appropriation is a “no year” appropriation with funds available until expended. These funds support line item construction projects, emergency and other unscheduled projects, housing projects, construction planning, equipment replacement, dam safety, general management planning, pre-design and supplementary services, and program management and operations. Planning provides the basic guidance for the management of each unit of the park system including protection, use, and development. Planning also includes evaluation of potential new units to the National Park System. Note: most of NPS road and bridge rehabilitation is accomplished through the Federal Lands Highways Program (in the Department of Transportation.)

### 3. Land Acquisition and State Assistance

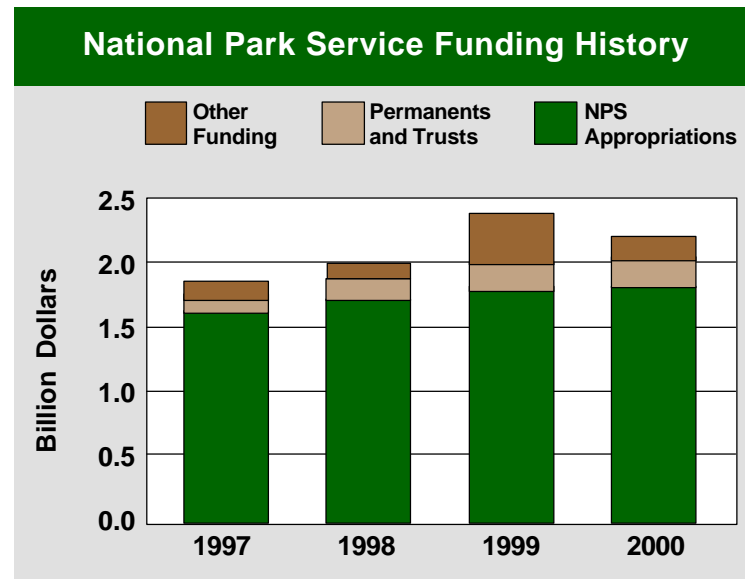
This appropriation funds the Federal acquisition of land or interest in land within the National Park System and matching grants to states, territories, and local governments. Administrative expenses for both programs are also provided. All funds provided in this account are available until expended and are derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

### 4. National Recreation and Preservation

These annual funds provide for a broad range of activities outside the National Park System, including outdoor recreation planning, natural and historic resource preservation, and technical assistance to state, local, and international governments for recreation and preservation projects.

### 5. Historic Preservation Fund

This two-year appropriation provides matching grants to, and in partnership with, state and local governments, Indian tribes, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities to help support the identification, evaluation, registration, and preservation of the nation’s historic, archeological, and cultural heritage. In addition, funds were provided in FY 2000 for priority preservation projects under the Save America’s Treasures Initiative.



**6. Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriations**

In FY 2000, six mandatory accounts received funding from recreation fees under permanent authorizations: Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, Fee Collection Support, National Park Passport Program, Educational Expenses, Children of Employees, Yellowstone National Park, Payment for Tax Losses on Land Acquired for Grand Teton National Park, and Deed-Restricted Parks Fee Program.

**7. Concessions Improvement Accounts**

By agreements with the National Park Service, some concessionaires deposit funds into special accounts to be used for improvements to concession service facilities without accruing possessory interests therefrom.

**8. Other Permanent Appropriations**

In FY 2000, five mandatory accounts received funding under permanent authorizations: Park Concessions Franchise Fees, Park Buildings Lease and Maintenance Fund, Operation and Maintenance of Quarters, Delaware Water Gap Route 209 Operations, and Glacier Bay National Park Resource Protection.

**9. Miscellaneous Trust Funds**

Donations are authorized to be accepted and used for purposes of the National Park System. Donations are made by individuals, groups, corporations, and associations, either by direct contribution or by bequest.

**10. Land and Water Conservation Fund Contract Authority**

The LWCF Act authorizes the obligation of up to \$30 million by contract each fiscal year for authorized Federal land acquisition in advance of an appropriation to liquidate the contract authority. This contract authority has been rescinded recently each fiscal year as part of the appropriations process.

**11. Net Transfers from Other Accounts**

Funds are shifted between accounts for specific purposes as authorized by law.

**12. Temporary Transfer for Fire Management**

Funds are shifted under emergency authority to fight forest fires with the expectation that the funds will be returned the next fiscal year.

**13. Allocations from Departmental Funds**

Funds are originally appropriated to accounts for the entire Department for certain purposes and then are allocated during the fiscal year to the National Park Service and other bureaus based on need.

**14. Reimbursables**

The National Park Service is reimbursed for work done for other agencies, Federal and non-Federal. For FY 2000, amounts include priority land acquisition funds from Title VI of FY 2000 appropriations.

**15. Federal Lands Highways Program**

Under authorization currently effective through FY 2003, a certain portion of Federal Lands Highways Program funds provided each fiscal year to the Federal Highway Administration are earmarked to be used for construction projects in the National Park System.



**National Park Service**  
**2000 Accountability Report**

**2000 HIGHLIGHTS**

**Featuring New NPS Arrowhead Logo Design Elements**

Sidebars  
throughout  
document feature  
photos and New  
NPS Arrowhead  
Logo Design  
Elements

## Natural Resource Challenge

The best hope to restore and retain the rich heritage found in the National Park System is to be fully informed about park plants, animals, ecosystems, and their interrelationships. Accordingly, in FY 1999, the National Park Service announced the Natural Resource Challenge, a five-year program to strengthen natural resource management. The NPS strategy to meet the challenge identifies these actions to sustain the natural resources in our parks:

- Accelerate natural resource inventories
- Expand monitoring efforts including air and water quality monitoring
- Protect native and endangered species and their habitats
- Aggressively control non-native species
- Improve resource planning
- Assure fully professional staff
- Enhance environmental stewardship
- Increase collaboration with scientists and others
- Enhance use of parks for scientific research
- Use parks for learning

The National Park Service received a \$14.3 million increase for challenge activities in FY 2000 including inventory and monitoring, the Natural Resources Preservation Program (NRPP), native and exotic species management, and geologic expertise for resource protection

The single biggest undertaking of the Natural Resource Challenge is to expand the inventory and monitoring effort. Inventories will provide baseline information about natural resources in the parks. Biologists have identified 12 basic natural resource inventories needed in 265 parks. The inventories will initially focus on mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and vascular plants.

Monitoring is a way to become familiar with the condition of park resources. Scientists and resource managers in each park will identify the basic indicators of health for their ecosystem. They will monitor vital components of the ecosystem such as the presence of pollinators, threatened and endangered species, air and water quality, erosion and slope stability—whatever is necessary to better assess the condition of park resources and reveal important trends.

The introduction or invasion of non-native species is one of the biggest threats to the natural ecosystems in national parks. Alien species can invade native ecosystems, disrupt ecological balance, reduce diversity, and destroy natural succession. Invasive exotic plants have gained a foothold and are now infesting large areas in many parks. Beginning in FY 2000, the National Park Service put new emphasis on exotic plant management. The NPS established four exotic plant management teams that will begin to control or, when possible, eradicate non-native plant species. The first four teams will work in the Hawaiian Islands, Florida, the National Capital Region, and the Chihuahuan Desert/Short-Grass Prairie.

The Natural Resource Challenge has resulted in many natural resource preservation projects and accelerated NPS work with threatened and endangered species. It has expanded National Park Service geologic expertise, including our capability regarding geologic hazards and coastal and cave restoration.

New and expanded partnerships are also underway. The National Park Service is working with other agencies, including the U.S. Geological Survey. Some regions have already established Cooperative Ecosystem Study Units at colleges and universities to provide technical assistance, research, and education support for parks.



New learning centers are envisioned as part of the Natural Resource Challenge. The learning center concept varies from park to park, but the basic idea is to provide laboratory space for visiting scientists and encourage scientists to work in parks and share their scientific knowledge directly with the public. These learning centers will be located either outside parks or developed on parklands through the adaptive reuse of existing facilities. The initial learning centers will be in Rocky Mountain National Park, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Point Reyes National Seashore, Cape Cod National Seashore, and Seward, Alaska, near Kenai Fjords National Park.

In the long term, park managers anticipate possessing the capability to access critical information, initiate better resource management practices, and restore damaged resources so that the people of today and future generations may enjoy them. For more information about National Park Service natural resource management and the Natural Resource Challenge visit the Nature Net website at < [www.nature.nps.gov](http://www.nature.nps.gov) >.

<b>Natural Resource Challenge FY 2000 Increases</b>	
<b>Increase Area</b>	<b>Amount (\$000)</b>
<b>Inventory and Monitoring</b>	<b>\$ 7,309</b>
<b>Natural Resources Preservation Program (NRPP)</b>	<b>2,875</b>
<b>Native and Exotic Species Management</b>	<b>3,449</b>
<b>Geologic Expertise for Resource Protection</b>	<b>696</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,329</b>

## Representative Natural Resource Challenge FY 2000 Accomplishments

### Inventorying and Monitoring

**North Cascades NP – Grizzly Bear Surveys** - Scientific advances help to confirm the presence of bears. Analysis of DNA in bear scat and from fur collected on “rub trees” provide excellent information including the identification of individual bears. In addition, biologists are placing remote cameras in areas where there have been fairly reliable sightings in recent years.

**Mojave NP - Tracking the Desert Tortoise, a Threatened Species** - An NPS team is systematically searching for tortoises in extensive areas of the Mojave Desert. In addition to establishing the number, density, and distribution of desert tortoise populations, some tortoises are fitted with transmitters to track their movements.

### Exotic Species Management

**National Capital Parks** - The integrity of Rock Creek Park and other areas where deciduous forests exist is threatened by uncontrolled invasions of non-native plants. Woody vines such as English ivy can kill forest canopy trees. Other vines and shrubs such as honeysuckle and bamboo form dense thickets that many species of wildlife cannot penetrate. An exotic plant management team stationed in Rock Creek Park is executing a successful eradication effort.

**Chihuahuan Desert/Southern Short-Grass Prairie** - Tamarisk is a deep-rooted plant that dries up springs and reduces water flow. Also known as salt cedar, this invasive plant pulls water and salt out of the soil, concentrates the salt in its leaves, and when the leaves drop, contaminates the soil surface with too much salt for other plants to survive. An exotic plant management team is working to eradicate tamarisk and 15 other invasive non-native plant species in 11 Intermountain Region parks ranging from as far south as Amistad NRA and Big Bend NP to as far north as Bent's Old Fort NHS.

**Congaree Swamp NM – Removing Feral Hogs** - Funding from the Natural Resource Challenge assists the NPS to monitor and evaluate non-native feral hog impacts and recommend alternatives for control and reduction of hog impacts at several parks throughout the System. At Congaree Swamp, wetland communities, native vegetation, aquatic habitats, and rare and endangered species are subject to severe damage from hog rooting and other behavior.

### Natural Resources Preservation Program (NRPP)

**Buffalo NR – Restoring the Riverbanks** - In the Boxley Valley, the river meanders through alluvial bottoms that have been farmed to the river's edge. The riverbanks are unstable, and bank erosion increases silt in the river and alters the stream channel. To restore the riverbanks to a more natural condition, the NPS surveyed the channel and anchored revetments of cut cedar trees to halt erosion and restore banks. Native hardwoods will be planted along five miles of the river to help bind the soil and restore natural stability to the riparian area.

**Cape Cod NS – Restoring a Wetland** - In 1930, Hatches Harbor, a 200-acre salt marsh was diked, blocking tidal flow and causing the natural salt marsh to freshen. Freshwater common reeds replaced the salt marsh *Spartina* grass, reducing the value of habitat for young fish and shellfish. The NPS installed four seven-foot wide culverts along the dike to restore native grasses and a natural tidal flow. Adjustable gates are now opened gradually to slowly restore salt water flow. With the gates open, regular tidal flushing will occur and predatory fish may enter the marsh. One of the benefits will be a reduction of mosquito breeding to more natural levels.

**Great Smoky Mountains NP – Brook Trout Restoration** - Nearly 80 percent of the native brook trout natural range has been lost in to encroachment by exotic fish at low elevations and to other problems. To replenish native brook trout in the middle stretches of Sam's Creek, non-native, competing rainbow trout are being moved. A waterfall barrier will prevent future rainbow trout access.

## Everglades Restoration and Research

In 1996, Congress passed the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to guide the restoration of the Everglades and South Florida ecosystem. The law focuses on resolving water quality, water quantity, wetlands, and issues in the South Florida ecosystem. Because of the Act, the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force was established. The task force is an interagency and intergovernmental entity that coordinates the input and expertise of 14 Federal agencies, 7 state agencies, 16 counties, 2 sovereign tribes, and more than 150 municipalities. This unprecedented partnership of the Federal Government, State of Florida, and tribal, regional, and local governments is responsible for the largest restoration effort ever undertaken. The Department of the Interior, including the National Park Service, in particular, is a major party to the restoration effort.

### Operations

Four National Park System sites are located in South Florida. Operations of these units are critical to continuing preservation and protection of South Florida natural and cultural resources. The largest park unit is Everglades National Park, which contains the largest remaining subtropical wilderness in the coterminous United States. It contains extensive freshwater and saltwater areas including Florida Bay, open sawgrass prairies, mangrove forests, and abundant wildlife, including rare birds. Big Cypress National Preserve, next in size and to the north of Everglades National Park, protects the watershed for the threatened ecosystem of South Florida. Big Cypress contains subtropical plant and animal life, and it is home to endangered species such as the Florida panther and the red-cockaded woodpecker. The preserve is also the ancestral home of the Seminole and Miccosukee Indians. Biscayne National Park is located South of Miami. It includes a chain of subtropical islands with Biscayne Bay on the west and the Atlantic Ocean on the east. The park protects interrelated marine systems including mangrove shoreline, bay community, subtropical

keys, and the northernmost coral reef in the United States. Dry Tortugas National Park is located at the extreme western edge of the Florida Keys. The park contains Fort Jefferson, the largest all-mason fortification of the Western world, as well as a bird refuge and marine life including coral reefs.

### Land

National Park System lands in four parks located in South Florida represent almost 4,000 square miles of the 18,000 square mile Everglades “River of Grass” ecosystem. Land is a critical part of ecosystem restoration projects. Land is needed for water storage and aquifer recharge areas that will help restore natural hydrology. It is needed to construct water quality treatment areas and to preserve habitat for wildlife corridors. Land can also act as a buffer zone or as critical habitat for recovering threatened and endangered species.

In FY 2000, the National Park Service purchased 19,440 acres at Everglades National Park and 2,213 acres at Big Cypress National Preserve. Money was also appropriated in FY 2000, as it was in FY 1998 and FY 1999, to provide substantial grants to the State of Florida for land acquisition outside of park boundaries. Lands purchased in Everglades National Park in FY 1999 are used to implement the Modified Water Deliveries Project, a construction effort currently underway, which will restore natural hydrologic conditions in the park’s critical Shark River Slough drainage.

### Everglades Research

The Task Force’s *Central and Southern Florida Comprehensive Plan*, known as the Restudy, is a blueprint for the restoration of the entire 18,000-square-mile ecosystem. The plan provides the opportunity to capture, clean, and distribute water in the right amounts and at the right time to the Everglades. The plan proposes to remove over 240 miles of internal levees and canals. When combined with other current water quality commitments, the efforts proposed by the plan will lead to improved quality and delivery of water entering the natural

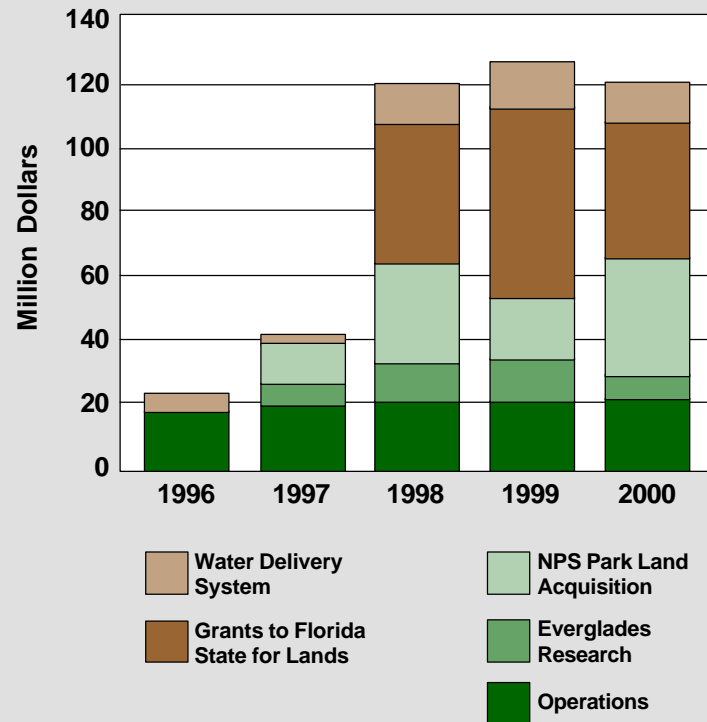


system and to Florida and Biscayne Bays. The plan allows for the capture and use of over one million additional acre-feet of water, which will result in a significant improvement to the environment and in the return of the abundant fish and wildlife that once thrived in the area. The plan accomplishes these goals while increasing the amount of water available to urban and agricultural users—and without reducing flood protection.

In FY 2000, the National Park Service participated in partnerships with multiple representatives of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force to develop the knowledge base required for restoration of the South Florida ecosystem. Research included the development of improved integration of scientific databases and geo-spatial analysis. Studies also included assessments of the influence of contaminants, biogeochemical processes, and landscape scale projects to examine patterns, processes, and regional scale modeling. This research continues along with ongoing efforts to plan and implement water quality improvement technologies, and to develop control strategies for exotic species.

Research is a prerequisite to restore disappearing habitats and remove barriers that block natural migration corridors. Scientific studies will aid reintroduction of species and enhance the size of populations at risk. Habitat and wildlife restoration and preservation maintain the ecological connections and maximize the ecosystem's biodiversity. Sustainable habitats and species populations also benefit humans in the forms of open spaces and recreational areas, and perpetuate industries such as fishing, agriculture, tourism, and trade. The Everglades/South Florida Ecosystem Restoration project is ambitious and long-term, but the program is essential to restore the Everglades, the internationally renowned and important "River of Grass."

### Everglades/South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Funding History





## 5-year Maintenance and Capital Improvement Plan

The National Park Service manages more land, buildings, roads, and water systems than many state governments. In 1999, responding to concerns about a deteriorating infrastructure, the National Park Service, in concert with the Department of the Interior, committed to the development of a Five-Year Maintenance and Capital Improvement Plan.

This plan covers the National Park System repair and rehabilitation and line-item construction programs. It is designed to improve management and accountability for NPS infrastructure requirements and to focus maintenance and construction project funding on the highest priority health and safety and resource protection needs. Besides providing a framework for planning and management of these programs, the plan allows better definition and identification of accumulated, deferred maintenance funding requirements. Lists of proposed projects, beginning with the budget year and continuing for four additional years, are submitted to Congress with the annual budget request. The plan will be updated annually to reflect changes in priority or the identification of new needs.

National Park Service endorsement of this approach resulted in increases in funding for the Repair and Rehabilitation Program and construction programs in FY 1999. The first official submission of the Five-Year Plan, covering the period FY 2000-FY 2004, occurred in FY 2000.

## Recreation Fee Demonstration Program

Beginning in FY 1997, the National Park Service expanded fee collection under the authority of the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program. The Fee Demo Program is now authorized through FY 2001. The law allows Federal land management agencies to test new fees across the geographic and program spectrum of sites managed by the respective agencies. More significantly, the new law allows the NPS to retain 100 percent of the revenue collected for park use without the revenue being subject to appropriation.

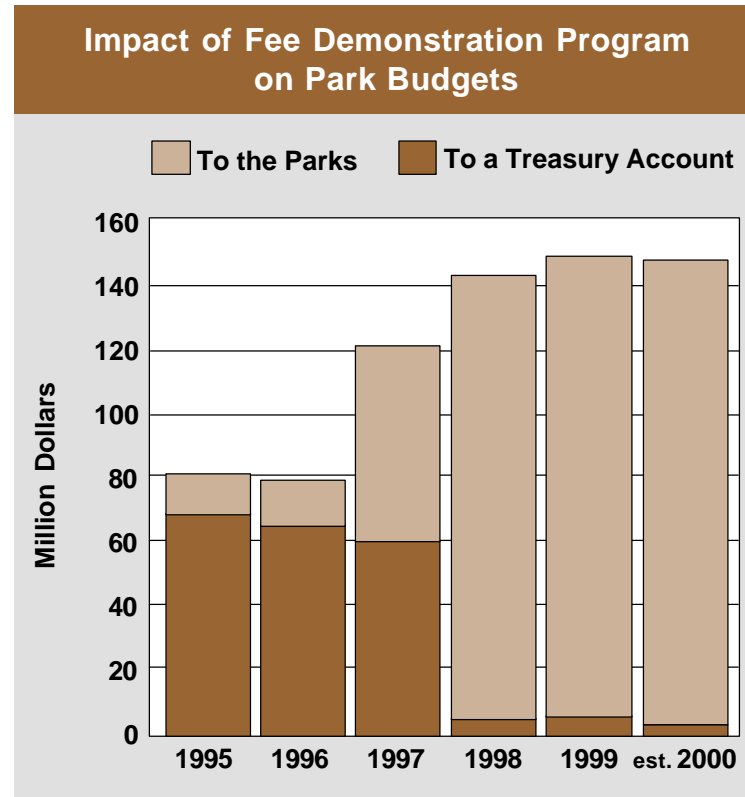
Presently, more than half (204) of the 379 park units collect entrance fees and/or use fees. There are 100 participating fee demonstration “pilot parks.” Fee Demo pilot parks are allowed to retain 80 percent of all fee revenue collected at the park for immediate use. The remaining 20 percent contributes directly to a central fund which is immediately available to the Director of the National Park Service for discretionary distribution to parks across the National Park System. Funds collected during the five-year test program are available for expenditure through September 30, 2004. The availability of additional monies to the NPS over the five-year period is estimated at approximately \$600 million.

NPS has welcomed the Fee Demo Program as an opportunity to test a variety of new fee prices, new types of fees, new collection strategies, and to institute fees in areas that were previously prohibited from charging fees. In the program’s most basic implementation, parks such as Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, and Yosemite have raised their entrance fee to \$20 per vehicle or \$10 per person, good for seven days. The National Park Service uses “point-of-contact” fee collection, usually at the park entrance to provide crucial park information and orientation.

One of the main tenets of National Park Service fee policy is to ensure that the public can see the results of their “contribution” to the park. The NPS has determined that the majority of the fee revenue will be dedicated to addressing backlogged maintenance, infrastructure, and interpretive exhibit projects as well as critical resource management actions throughout the National Park System. Beginning in 1998, Congress also authorized the use of these funds to cover the cost of collecting fees.

Since its beginning in FY 1997, the program has been responsible for nearly \$468 million in additional funding becoming directly available to the parks: \$45.1 million in FY 1997, \$136.8 million in FY 1998, \$141.3 million in FY 1999, and \$144.4 million in FY 2000. One of the more ambitious projects using fee revenue is the innovative Canyon View Information Plaza Visitor Center which opened in October 2000 at Grand Canyon National Park.

The revenue generated over the course of the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program is critical to the financial health of the National Park System. It provides the NPS an opportunity to undertake and complete a wide variety of project work that would otherwise not be possible within the constraints of the appropriations process. The National Park Service hopes to convey to the public a long-term sense of “ownership” of their parks by showcasing visible results of the program, through better protection of the irreplaceable park resources, and by providing a more satisfying and complete visitor experience.





## Save America's Treasures

In FY 2000, Congress appropriated \$30 million for the Save America's Treasures grant program, a public-private partnership initiated between the White House Millennium Council and the National Trust for Historic Preservation administered by the National Park Service. This partnership is dedicated to identifying and rescuing enduring symbols of American tradition that define us as a nation. By law, each award requires a dollar-for-dollar non-Federal match. States, localities, corporations, foundations, and individuals who value the American heritage have pledged support through financial contributions, donations, and in-kind services. All projects require approval by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

The array of grants awarded in FY 2000 indicate the extent and diversity of America's historical and cultural heritage. In FY 2000, grants were made to 71 projects in 40 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Projects include preservation and protection of buildings or groups of structures including historically or architecturally significant homes, schools, churches, industrial sites, military encampments, courthouses, immigration sites, a penitentiary, and a lighthouse. Literary and artistic projects include theatres, art collections, sound recordings, and dance. Among a host of notable sites in remembrance of important Americans are Benjamin Franklin National Memorial and Harriet Tubman National Historic Site. Archeological projects protect ancient mounds and cave collections.

The value of the FY 2000 Save America's Treasures grants range from as high as \$2,500,000 to as low as \$50,000. The majority of grants range between \$250,000 and \$500,000. In dollars, the largest restoration and preservation projects include the National First Ladies Library in Ohio, the Intrepid Sea Air Space Museum in New York, and the Mark Twain House in Connecticut. Smaller projects include preserving the Babe Ruth scrapbooks at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and three collections of American Dance featuring African American, Korean American, and Native American traditions.

Four National Park System units benefited from the grant program. Central High National Historic Site will be able to make structural repairs to the school building. The Laundry and Hospital Outbuilding at Ellis Island at Statue of Liberty National Monument will undergo restoration, as will Fort San Felipe del Morro at San Juan National Historic Site. At Valley Forge National Historical Park, buildings that served as quarters for George Washington's officers will be repaired. Sites affiliated with the NPS, including Anderson Cottage and the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, also received grants. As a participant in the grant program, the National Park Service does not have a role on the panel awarding grants.



## Wildland Fire

The year 2000 fire season was one of the most destructive in recent history. Over six million acres were burned—primarily forest in the 11 western states running from New Mexico to Washington. Particularly hard-hit were Montana, Idaho, and New Mexico. The flames knew no boundaries; national parks such as Mesa Verde, Glacier, Grand Canyon, Great Basin, Theodore Roosevelt, Yellowstone, and Grand Teton were threatened and, on occasion, closed to the public for short periods of time. Park visitation and local economies were negatively affected.

The U.S. Forest Service has the main wildfire-fighting responsibility in the Federal Government. Within the Interior Department, financial resources are centralized in the Bureau of Land Management from which the National Park Service is allocated funding for suppression and pre-suppression activities. As all land-managing agencies, the National Park Service contributes staff towards combating national wildfire emergencies.

Despite its destructive power, fires create a mosaic of biodiversity that is nearly impossible to produce by any other means. Accordingly, Federal land agencies, including the National Park Service, conduct a program of controlled, or prescribed, burning to further this birth of biodiversity and to minimize the danger of more serious wildland fire in and around national parklands. In accordance with Federal wildland fire policy for fire-dependent ecosystems, prescribed burns can be used to reduce dangerously high fuel accumulations that arise from a lack of fire. This vital tool is designed to prevent larger conflagrations.

On May 4, 2000, during such a prescribed burn, fire personnel at Bandelier National Monument in New Mexico ignited a prescribed fire under an approved plan. A significant increase in wind conditions caused the fire to move out of control, resulting in forced evacuations of neighboring towns, destruction of 235 homes, and danger to Los Alamos National Laboratory. The National Park Service has acknowledged responsibility for the Cerro Grande Fire, citing poor judgment and the faulty execution of standard procedures. An immediate and thorough interagency review was undertaken and resulted in several recommendations including implementation actions designed to ensure strict adherence to Federal Wildland Fire Policy and revisions to the policy where necessary.

In July of 2000, Congress approved emergency appropriations totaling \$661 million in compensation for residents and government agencies that suffered losses from the fire. The National Park Service has pledged a renewed commitment to prevent any possibility of a recurrence of this type of disaster.



## Diversity Action Plan

The National Park Service has developed a Diversity Action Plan with the objective to remain a viable organization for preserving and maintaining the national treasures of all Americans. In its second year of implementation, the Diversity Action Plan has touched every aspect of the National Park System. The plan affects the nature and interpretation of parks. It is reflected in the face of the workforce. It also accommodates the scope of visitors that enjoy the parks. For more information about the National Park Service Diversity Action Plan go to < <http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/diversity> > on the Web.

### Parks

A primary role of the National Park System is to preserve and communicate the legacy of individuals and historical, natural and cultural places/events that are worthy of the concern and attention of our generation and future generations. Each of the 379 units of the National Park System are recognized as areas of national significance. The parks reflect the nation's cultural diversity by commemorating the many ethnic heritages, professions, and events integral to the development of our country. The parks also reflect the nation's natural diversity by preserving unique ecosystems and geologic formations, wilderness, rivers, and trails—all places of spectacular beauty.

The National Park Service has developed Internet sites that look at many of the thematic frameworks of the parks. Under a website called *Categories of National Significance*, web browsers can view a wide range of topics. Sites can be found at < <http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/catsig/catsig.htm> >.

### Categories of National Significance

• Agriculture	• Education
• Intellectual Philosophy	• Science
• Architecture	• Entertainment/ Performing Arts
• Labor	• Settlement/Migration
• Art	• Exploration
• Landscape Architecture	• Social and Humanitarian Movements
• Commemoration	• Environmental Conservation
• Literature	• Technology and Engineering
• Commerce	• Historic Preservation
• Maritime	• Tourism
• Communications	• Health/Medicine
• Recreation	• Transportation
• Community	• Immigration
• Religion	• Women
• Economics	• Industry
• Ethnic Heritage	African American, Alaska Native, American Indian, Asian American, European, Hispanic, Pacific Islander
• Government	Constitution, Foreign Relations, Law, Politics, Presidents
• Military	Civil War, Colonial Wars, Korean War, Mexican War, Indian Conflicts, Revolutionary War, Vietnam War, War of 1812, World War II

## Workforce Diversity

The National Park Service workforce should be as diverse as the National Park System it serves and represents. Within the NPS, diversity encompasses more than differences in race, religion, national origin, disabilities, age, gender, or sexual orientation; it includes respecting and appreciating individual differences and ensuring all employees are included as full, contributing, and influential team members. To promote diversity within the workforce, the National Park Service takes the following actions:

- Educate managers about diversity issues
- Hold park managers responsible for diversifying seasonal and permanent staff
- Establish full-time recruiters to focus exclusively on recruitment of highly skilled diverse candidates, including those with disabilities
- Establish relationships with minority colleges and universities, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, and tribal colleges; the National Association for the Advancement of Black Federal Employees; and the Student Conservation Association
- Through outreach programs, encourage minority interest in careers that benefit the NPS, including archeology and historic preservation
- Recruit a diverse pool of applicants for NPS youth programs to increase the percentage of minorities employed in summer seasonal jobs
- Develop the current workforce through established programs such as the Intake Trainee Program

Through these activities, the National Park Service has made some progress in improving the diversity of our workforce regarding women and minorities. More limited progress has been made in improving the representation of citizens with disabilities.

## NPS Diversity Foundation

<b>Employees</b>	• Are treated fairly
	• Are recognized and rewarded based upon ability and merit for their contributions
	• Have equal access to opportunity for growth and advancement
	• Respect each other and are free from harassment, discrimination, and intolerance
	• Represent the diversity of society at all levels throughout the NPS
	• Are recognized as crucial to the success of the NPS and are managed and developed accordingly

## Objectives of NPS Workforce Diversity Action Plan

<b>Work Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptance of diversity</li> <li>• Absence of bias</li> <li>• Collaboration and teamwork</li> </ul>
<b>Proactive Leadership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulation of a common vision</li> <li>• Clear focus on goals</li> <li>• Active participation</li> <li>• Achievement of results</li> </ul>
<b>Systems</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No barriers to workforce diversity</li> <li>• Effective members of a diverse workforce</li> </ul>
<b>Workforce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflection of the diversity of American society</li> <li>• Best talents of all groups</li> </ul>

## Visitors

The National Park Service is determined to make the national parks engaging and meaningful for all Americans. The NPS recognizes that parks were used historically by a relatively narrow segment of the population, and it also notes that many parks have not offered experiences meaningful to visitors from varied ethnic backgrounds. Although each park is meaningful to different people in different ways, the National Park Service wants all Americans to find personal meaning and opportunity in some parks, and in their own way.

Improving the diversity of the National Park Service workforce is a major step in increasing the diversity of visitors. A diverse workforce increases the comfort level of diverse visitors, encouraging visitation. Diversity can serve to expand outreach programs to more communities, businesses, schools, and social organizations.

Interpretation programs are being expanded to reflect more comprehensively the purpose of the site. In this way, sites encompass a broader interest base. Visitors who come to National Park System sites have multiple, some times mutually, exclusive interests. For example, some visitors to Civil War battlefields are drawn by the military history and brinkmanship, but others are interested in the historical and societal context of the battle. The National Park Service believes that all visitors need to be served, and ways to do this are being pursued.

## Representative NPS Efforts to Serve a Diverse Public

<b>Workshops</b>	Civil and human rights interpretive planning
	Forum on interpreting slavery
<b>National Register of Historic Places</b>	Book: <i>San Antonio Missions: Spanish Influence in Texas</i>
	Lesson Plan: <i>Teaching with Historic Places</i>
	Website: <i>We Shall Overcome – Historic Places of the Civil Rights Movement, an Internet Travel Itinerary.</i>
<b>Programs for Underserved Audiences</b>	The Rocky Mountain Corps of Discovery takes Hispanic, American Indian, and African-American children from Denver to Rocky Mountain National Park to learn about the natural world.
	Badlands National Park interpretation programs use Lakota interpreters to provide multiple perspectives on the history of the area.
	Hovenweep and Natural Bridges National Monuments have an outdoor education program that brings local Native American schoolchildren to the parks.
<b>Programs in Multiple Languages</b>	Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area's website is in Spanish as well as English to help meet the needs of Hispanics using the park.
	The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Office published a Spanish-English bilingual brochure about a neighborhood effort to restore a tidal wetland in National City, California.
	Golden Gate National Recreation Area offers its teacher's curriculum in both Chinese and Spanish.
<b>Multimedia and Underground Railroad Initiative</b>	Book: Full color interpretive handbook helps preserve and educate the public about the stories related to Underground Railroad sites.
	Website: Online travel itinerary, <i>Aboard the Underground Railroad.</i>
<b>NPS Partnerships</b>	With Southern University, opening an urban recreation research facility that provides research, technical assistance, and training to urban park managers across the nation.



## Civil War Battlefield and Interpretation

In March 2000, the National Park Service submitted a report to Congress entitled *Interpretation at Civil War Sites*. The report responded to a request that the NPS prepare an assessment of the educational information currently conveyed at Civil War sites related to the causes of the American Civil War, including the role that the institution of slavery played in initiating that conflict.

This direction from Congress came at an auspicious time. The National Park Service has been reviewing its approach to interpreting the Civil War as part of an educational strategy endorsed by the NPS in 1997, which specified that “programs and materials developed by the National Park Service be made more useful by expanding their context and increasing the ways that they are made available to the educational community and the general public.” The interpretation of Civil War sites also has been influenced by recommendations from a general conference of NPS battlefield managers during 1998.

Interpretation at Civil War sites is now guided by the principle that “Battlefield interpretation must establish the site’s particular place in the continuum of war; illuminate the social, economic, and cultural issues that caused or were affected by the war; illustrate the breadth of human experience during the period; and establish the relevance of the war to people today.” Park staff, NPS historians, and the academic community are working together to create interpretive products and programs that will tell the entire Civil War story. Much of this effort will be devoted to providing visitors to Civil War sites with a better understanding of the economic, political, and social context of the period. Ongoing efforts include updated interpretive programs and exhibits, new Civil War Internet sites, and expanded inventories at park bookstores.

The job of interpretation, in all its forms and regardless of the topic, is to help individuals discover their relationship to a park and to help them understand why the park exists. In general, battlefield managers desire to improve all areas of interpretation. This interest is thwarted primarily by limited staff and resources in relationship to the amount of media that needs to be made current, both technically and academically. Some progress in this area has been made at several Civil War sites through the funds obtained from the Fee Demonstration Program. In FY 1998-99, 16 Civil War sites received over \$1.5 million that was directed at media replacement and content enrichment.

Through its education mandate, anchored in the 1935 Historic Sites Act, the National Park Service has an obligation to present to the American public a history that promotes an understanding of the complexity of historical causation, the perils of historical stereotypes, and the relationship between past events and contemporary conditions. By exercising its appropriate role within the historical and educational professions, the NPS promotes a better public understanding of this country’s past.

## Interpretation at Richmond National Battlefield Park Text of Exhibit at New Partnership Visitor Center

### First Panel

The Civil War (1861-1865) remains the central event in American history. Richmond [Virginia] was at the heart of the conflict. More than seventy years after the adoption of the Constitution, a nation founded on principles of liberty and equality still allowed human enslavement and quarreled over the balance between state and Federal powers. These interrelated issues led to Constitutional crises that were merely patched over, satisfying neither North or South. The growing nation became increasingly divided over the existence and expansion of slavery.

Lincoln's election to the Presidency in 1860 convinced many southern leaders that their slave-based economy and social order would be threatened by Federal restrictions. Seven states quickly passed articles of secession and created the Confederate States of America. After the new Confederacy fired on a Federal fort in Charleston Harbor and Lincoln called for troops to preserve the Union, Virginia joined the Confederacy and prepared to resist invasion.

Richmond, the Confederate capital and industrial center of the South, was a major objective of Union strategy for four years. As war began, neither side anticipated the brutal clashes, long sieges, and home front destruction that brought death or injury to more than one million Americans, and devastation to a broad landscape, much of it in Virginia.

### Last Panel

Beginning as a war to determine the preservation or the division of the United States, the Civil War ended in emancipation for four million Americans as well as preservation of the Union. Three Constitutional amendments—the Thirteenth, the Fourteenth and Fifteenth—promised former slaves freedom and rights as citizens. The war decisively answered the question of whether states might leave the Union, and shifted the balance of political power toward the Federal level.

But much remained unresolved in Richmond and the nation. The war did not solve issues of racial prejudice, nor did it establish final meanings for freedom and equality in the United States. These meanings began to evolve in law, practice, and history as soon as the war ended.

After the war, Richmond witnessed both commemorations and celebrations of the Civil War. Many white Richmonders tended graves and erected memorials, while blacks honored emancipation with parades and religious services. How well Richmonders, and the rest of America, could overcome their divisions was a challenge for the future.

## Civil War Sites

Andersonville NHS  
Antietam NB  
Appomattox Court House NHP  
Arkansas Post NMem  
Arlington House  
Brices Crossroads NBS  
Chickamauga & Chattanooga NMP  
Cumberland Gap NHP  
Fort Donelson NB  
Fort Pulaski NM  
Fort Scott NHS  
Fort Sumter NM  
Fort Union NM  
Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania NMP  
Gettysburg NMP  
Harpers Ferry NHP  
Kennesaw Mountain NBP  
Manassas NBP  
Monocacy NB  
Natchez Trace Pkwy  
Pea Ridge NMP  
Pecos NHP  
Petersburg NB  
Richmond NBP  
Shiloh NMP  
Stones River NB  
Tupelo NB  
Ulysses S. Grant NHS  
Vicksburg, NMP  
Wilson's Creek NB

NB – National Battlefield  
NBP – National Battlefield Park  
NBS – National Battlefield Site  
NHS – National Historic Site  
NHP – National Historical Park  
NM – National Monument  
NMem – National Memorial  
NMP – National Military Park

## Environmental Leadership

To achieve the goal of environmental excellence in all National Park Service programs and activities, the NPS has determined to advance beyond required environmental compliance and aggressively pursue pollution prevention and sustainable practices throughout the organization. The National Park Service provides environmental leadership by working with customers and stakeholders to address mutual environmental concerns. The NPS promotes sustainability opportunities in areas such as energy conservation, water conservation, waste management, and alternative transportation. The agency also educates its staff and the public about sustainability.

While environmental leadership activities are an extension of the National Park Service stewardship mission, and they reflect the NPS history of resource protection, such practices also incorporate new environmental goals promulgated in five Presidential Executive Orders which require agencies to “green” their operations.

### Accomplishments resulting from NPS environmental leadership include:

- Acadia and Zion National Parks inform visitors that when they use the new propane-fueled shuttle buses as alternative transportation systems, they are practicing resource stewardship.
- The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal embarked on a highly successful Trash-Free Park Program which asks visitors to pack-out their garbage, thus protecting the resources (and reducing park operational costs).
- Rocky Mountain National Park became the first park in the country to be a “Clean Cities” park, enabling alternative fueled vehicles to be introduced, not just in the park, but in the surrounding communities as well.
- The NPS completed over 50 environmental audits at park facilities.

- A Concession Environmental Management Program facilitates concessioner compliance with environmental regulatory requirements, promotes environmental awareness and accountability, and encourages the integration of sustainability and pollution prevention strategies in concession operations.

### Environmental Leadership Projects and Tools Under Development

<b>Training</b>	Environmental Leadership pilot training course
	A complete environmental training curriculum assessment to establish the core competencies required for employees
<b>Visitor Involvement</b>	Demonstrations in green energy technology through a NPS/DOE partnership (Green Energy Parks)
	Demonstrations at parks on National Clean Boating and National Clean Beaches
<b>Guidance</b>	Update of the landmark NPS publication <i>Guiding Principles of Sustainable Design</i> (1993) (which will include input from world class sustainability experts)
<b>Standards</b>	Sample standard job description and performance criteria for park/support office



## Alternative Transportation Systems

The National Park Service Alternative Transportation Program is mandated to design and implement innovative transportation plans and to develop policy, guidance, and coordination procedures for the implementation of safe and efficient transportation systems that are compatible with the protection and preservation of the National Park System's cultural and natural resources.

Many visitors arrive in parks by private automobile. In some cases, this has begun to threaten the resources which the parks were created to protect, and the resources which the public comes to enjoy. Traffic congestion, lack of parking places, and air and noise pollution are problems that frustrate visitors and that can damage park resources. Providing alternative transportation systems within the parks is one way to address these issues.

Currently, there are 63 visitor transit systems in 50 parks that vary in size ranging from single vehicle vans to bus fleets. In FY 2000, major advances in alternative transportation systems occurred at several parks including Zion National Park, Acadia National Park, and Grand Canyon National Park.

In FY 2000, the National Park Service completed a guidebook for NPS managers that details transportation planning issues and options. The guidebook features information of such topics as the role and purpose of transportation in National Parks, an explanation of transportation planning and tools, and how to evaluate transportation alternatives and implement solutions.

### Representative FY 2000 Developments NPS Alternative Transportation Systems

#### Acadia National Park

The Island Explorer shuttle bus service provides an alternative to traveling by personal automobile. Use of the shuttle has reduced emissions, eliminating an estimated two tons of nitrous oxide, four tons of hydrocarbons, 32 tons of carbon monoxide, and approximately 522 tons of carbon dioxide from the air. The emissions reductions are equivalent to shutting down a small manufacturing plant for a year. Acadia's shuttle bus service has eliminated 1.3 million vehicle miles driven on park roads, reducing wear and tear, congestion, and sometimes dangerous competition for parking spaces.

#### Zion National Park

As an increasingly popular destination for visitors who arrive primarily by car, RV, or tour bus, Zion, in particular, suffered from overburdened resources. To reduce traffic, improve the park experience, and protect park resources, a new bus transportation system began operation on May 26, 2000. From March through October, and during other peak visitation times, the bus system is the only method by which to enter the park. The park loop offered by the transit system includes nine stops in Zion Canyon. A second loop serves six stops in the town of Springdale, the gateway community to the park, where visitors leave their vehicles to ride the shuttle to the new Zion Canyon Visitor Center. There, exhibits and audiovisual presentations help visitors plan their visit, and visitors can catch the park loop shuttle.

#### Grand Canyon National Park

The Canyon View Information Plaza, a new transportation/orientation center at the park, neared completion in FY 2000. The hub, which replaces a much smaller visitor center, is designed to allow for alternative transportation systems which will connect visitors to other points in the park by light rail, alternative fuel buses, a Greenway trail system, and the Rim Trail.

## Land Acquisition

Many national parks contain land within their legislatively designated boundaries that is not owned by the Federal Government. All privately held interests are potentially subject to use and development. In some cases, proposed developments of these private interests are compatible with the park's purpose and objectives. However, many adversely affect the preservation of cultural, historic, or natural resources, and conflict with park purposes. Where regulatory authority exists, the National Park Service may control or condition the use of private interests. However, owners of privately held interests hold legally recognized and protected property rights. The NPS cannot deny their use without due process of law and just compensation to the holder of the right.

The National Park Service has developed land protection plans for all units containing private lands to identify the minimum land acquisition necessary to protect park resources and provide for visitor use. Not all privately held lands within the National Park System have been identified for purchase. Of the 83.6 million acres of the National Park System, 4.4 million are privately owned. The NPS has determined that about 1 million acres of land should be acquired, over half of which is in Alaska. Lands proposed for acquisition are estimated to value \$1.3 billion.

Through the third quarter of FY 2000, \$96.5 million was obligated for land acquisition. During that time, the National Park Service acquired interest in 2,042 tracts containing 27,942 acres. Of all lands acquired within the National Park System during the first three quarters of FY 2000, 11,501 acres were acquired by purchase, 5,624 acres were acquired by condemnation, and 11,271 acres were acquired by donation. The NPS transferred 438 acres to other Federal and municipal agencies.

### Elwha River Ecosystem Restoration

On February 29, 2000, the National Park Service completed an eight-year effort to acquire the Glines Canyon and Elwha River Dams. Public Law 102-495 directed the NPS to acquire approximately 1,200 acres both inside and outside the boundary of Olympic National Park to restore the Elwha River ecosystem and fisheries. The acquisition of these lands, for \$29.5 million, will allow the restoration of the river and the canyon through which it flows.

### Civil War Battlefield Protection

Through June 30, 2000, interest was acquired in 23 tracts of land totaling 282 acres at four different battlefield sites. Negotiations with other landowners are ongoing, and additional landowners are being contacted to ascertain their interest in selling property to the NPS. Preliminary work, such as title research, mapping, appraisals, and environmental site assessments continue.

### South Florida Ecosystem Restoration

In support of the Department of the Interior's initiative to restore and protect the water flow into the Everglades and Florida Bay ecosystems, the NPS acquired 1,741 tracts containing 11,661 acres at Everglades National Park and 137 tracts containing 1,393 acres at Big Cypress National Preserve.

### Mojave National Preserve

On July 27, 2000, the NPS acquired 81,730 acres owned by Catellus Corporation at the Mojave at a cost of \$5 million. The Wildlands Conservancy, one of the largest non-profit land trusts in the West, assisted with matching funds for the acquisition.

## Concessions

There are currently 628 concessioners operating in approximately 130 parks within the National Park System. Concessioners provide a variety of necessary and appropriate visitor services including accommodations, restaurants and other food services, transportation, and merchandise facilities.

In FY 2000, the National Park Service developed administrative reforms that conform to new legislation passed in the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998 (which updates the Concession Policies Act of 1965). The new legislation substantively changed the manner in which the NPS awards concession contracts, as well as the terms and conditions of those contracts. The National Park Service published revised final concession regulations in the Federal Register on April 17, 2000. Revised final standard concession contract language followed on May 4, 2000.

Attributed partly to a freeze on concession contracting while new concessions policy was being developed, there are presently 286 expired concession authorizations which have been extended through December 31, 2000, with an additional 87 expected to expire on or before December 31, 2000. The National Park Service developed and is implementing a strategy under which it expects to advertise approximately 112 of the backlog of expired authorizations before December 31, 2000.

The National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998 also provided that all franchise fees paid by concessioners to the United States are deposited into a special account established in the U.S. Treasury. Pursuant to law, 80 percent of the franchise fees collected at each park are available, without further appropriation, for use at that park. Funds can be used for visitor services and for funding resource management programs and operations. The remaining 20 percent of these funds are available without further appropriations to support activities throughout the National Park System. In FY 1999, the latest year for which data is available, concessioners deposited \$14,545,410 into the franchise fee special account—\$11,636,328 was applied to the park-specific 80 percent fund and \$2,909,082 to the Servicewide 20 percent fund. The NPS made almost \$2.4 million of the Servicewide 20 percent fund available for projects such as appraisals of possessory interests, financial analyses, the Concessions Management Advisory Board, and selected park-specific needs.

In addition to the FY 1999 franchise fees discussed above, a total of \$32,283,011 was deposited by concessioners into capital or government improvement accounts for concession-related capital improvements. Several existing concession contracts, by their terms, require that concessioners maintain and deposit monies into capital and/or government improvement accounts to fund needed concession-related capital improvements. While no accounts of this type will be authorized under new concession contracts, the requirements of existing contracts will remain in effect until contract expiration or termination. Concessioners are not granted a possessory interest, leasehold surrender interest, or other compensable interest in capital improvements constructed with monies from these accounts.



## Limitations of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared to report the financial position and results of operations of the entity, pursuant to the requirements of 31 U.S.C. 3515(b). While the statements have been prepared from the books and records of the entity in accordance with the formats prescribed by OMB, the statements are in addition to the financial reports used to monitor and control budgetary resources which are prepared from the same books and records. The statements should be read with the realization that they are for a component of the U.S. Government, a sovereign entity. One implication of this is that liabilities cannot be liquidated without legislation that provides resources to do so.

**National Park Service**  
**2000 Accountability Report**

**STEWARDSHIP and HERITAGE ASSETS**

**Featuring New NPS Arrowhead Logo Design Elements**

Sidebars  
throughout  
document feature  
photos and New  
NPS Arrowhead  
Logo Design  
Elements

## Stewardship and Heritage Assets

The National Park Service is steward, for the people of the United States, to the land and resources which it administers. Forests, deserts, riparian areas, seashores, wilderness areas, archeological sites, museum collections, cultural landscapes and historic buildings are among the many stewardship and heritage assets which the NPS has the responsibility to preserve and protect. Information regarding the deferred maintenance on stewardship and heritage assets is contained in the Required Supplemental Stewardship Information section.

Subsets of lands within the authorized boundaries of the National Park System can have additional stewardship asset designations such as *wilderness areas*, *wild and scenic rivers*, and *trails*. Stewardship areas such as wilderness areas may encompass lands owned by entities other than the National Park Service. Changes in NPS boundaries occur only when authorized by Presidential proclamations or by acts of Congress. While individual units of stewardship land can be improved, the condition of NPS stewardship land as a whole is generally sufficient to support the NPS mission.

## National Park Service Land

The objective of acquiring land and interests in land is to preserve and protect, for public use and enjoyment, the historic, scenic, natural, and recreational values of Congressionally authorized areas within the National Park System. Acquisition of land helps to meet the increasingly heavy visitor demand for Federal recreation areas, conserves outstanding resources for public recreational use before they are converted to incompatible uses, and preserves the nation's natural and historic heritage.

The 379 units of the National Park System contain a total of 83,645,303.45 acres within their boundaries. Of that total, 78,197,903.64 acres are in Federal ownership: 77,945,990.95 acres in fee simple title, and 251,912.69 acres in less-than-fee title (ie., scenic easements). Non-Federal land within the NPS is either privately-owned (4,319,478.22 acres) or owned by state and local governments (1,127,921.59 acres). Subject to the availability of funds, privately-owned land will be acquired as opportunities for acquisition arise, or when an owner uses or threatens to use his property in a manner not compatible with park purposes. This table summarizes ownership of acreage within park boundaries by type of park unit:

NPS Unit Type	Federal Acreage	Non-Federal Acreage	Total Acreage
International Historic Site	28.44	16.46	44.90
National Battlefields	11,940.49	1,234.48	13,174.97
National Battlefields Parks	8,059.55	1,614.36	9,673.91
National Battlefields Site	1.00	0.00	1.00
National Historic Sites	20,138.14	4,545.30	24,683.44
National Historical Parks	115,566.03	47,329.80	162,895.83
National Lakeshores	145,743.92	83,226.17	228,970.09
National Memorials	8,041.10	489.75	8,530.85
National Military Parks	35,640.02	3,083.46	38,723.48
National Monuments	1,881,499.66	163,371.41	2,044,871.07
National Parks	49,839,064.88	2,123,877.16	51,962,942.04
National Preserves	21,492,411.61	2,225,110.92	23,717,522.53
National Recreation Areas	3,406,266.64	317,793.59	3,724,060.23
National Reserves	10,932.70	22,193.13	33,125.83
National Rivers	311,143.03	112,853.60	423,996.63
National Scenic Trails	158,400.42	66,909.79	225,310.21
National Seashores	478,289.93	116,227.92	594,517.85
National Wild & Scenic Rivers	72,912.86	146,556.00	219,468.86
Parks (Other)	37,723.38	1,508.66	39,232.04
Parkways	164,099.84	9,457.85	173,557.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>78,197,903.64</b>	<b>5,447,399.81</b>	<b>83,645,303.45</b>



Stewardship lands and associated heritage assets are used and managed in accordance with the statutes authorizing their acquisition or directing their use and management. The National Park Service conducts various activities to preserve and protect land resources, and to mitigate the effects of activities conducted previously on or near parks that adversely affect the natural state of the land.

## Wilderness Areas

A *wilderness area* is a place where humans are visitors and they do not remain. These areas, which are generally greater than 5,000 acres, appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with human development substantially unnoticeable. A wilderness area also provides outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

In the United States, there are over 100 million acres of Federal land designated *wilderness* by Congressional legislation under the Wilderness Act of 1964. In addition to the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management also manage wilderness areas. Because of the abundance of NPS wilderness acreage in Alaska, the National Park Service manages the greatest proportion of wilderness areas, at 53 percent of the entire National Wilderness Preservation System. This includes over 44 million acres within 45 different wilderness areas. The park units in the following table have areas recognized as wilderness, although they may not be designated wilderness areas that have a permit system.

Wilderness Area Name	Park Unit	Acreage
<b>Alaska</b>		
Denali	Denali National Park	2,146,580
Gates of the Arctic	Gates of the Arctic National Park	7,245,600
Glacier Bay	Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve	2,659,876
Katmai	Katmai National Park & Preserve	3,425,811
Kobuk Valley	Kobuk Valley National Park	164,112
Lake Clark	Lake Clark National Park	2,618,455
Noatak	Noatak National Preserve	5,816,168
Wrangell-St. Elias	Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve	9,676,994
<b>Arkansas</b>		
Buffalo National River	Buffalo National River	34,933
<b>Arizona</b>		
Chiricahua	Chiricahua National Monument	10,680
Organ Pipe Cactus	Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument	312,600
Petrified Forest	Petrified Forest National Park	50,260
Saguaro	Saguaro National Monument	70,905
<b>California</b>		
Death Valley	Death Valley National Park	3,128,038
Joshua Tree	Joshua Tree National Park	557,802
Lassen Volcanic	Lassen Volcanic National Park	78,982
Lava Beds	Lava Beds National Monument	27,970
Mojave	Mojave National Preserve	695,200
Philip Burton	Point Reyes National Seashore	25,370
Pinnacles	Pinnacles National Monument	13,270
Sequoia-Kings Canyon	Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park	736,980
Yosemite	Yosemite National Park	704,624
<b>Colorado</b>		
Black Canyon of the Gunnison	Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park	15,599
Great Sand Dunes	Great Sand Dunes National Monument	33,450
Indian Peaks	Rocky Mountain National Park	2,917
Mesa Verde	Mesa Verde National Park	8,100
<b>Florida</b>		
Marjory Stoneman Douglas	Everglades National Park	1,296,500
<b>Georgia</b>		
Cumberland Island	Cumberland Island National Seashore	8,840



Photo

Wilderness Area Name	Park Unit	Acreage
<b>Hawaii</b>		
Haleakala	Haleakala National Park	19,270
Hawaii Volcanoes	Hawaii Volcanoes National Park	123,100
<b>Idaho</b>		
Creators of the Moon	Craters of the Moon National Monument	43,243
<b>Michigan</b>		
Isle Royale	Isle Royale National Park	132,018
<b>Mississippi</b>		
Gulf Islands	Gulf Islands National Seashore	4,637
<b>North Dakota</b>		
Theodore Roosevelt	Theodore Roosevelt National Park	29,920
<b>New Mexico</b>		
Bandelier	Bandelier National Monument	23,267
Carlsbad Caverns	Carlsbad Caverns National Park	33,125
<b>New York</b>		
Fire Island	Fire Island National Seashore	1,363
<b>South Carolina</b>		
Congaree Swamp	Congaree Swamp National Monument	15,010
<b>South Dakota</b>		
Badlands	Badlands National Park	64,144
<b>Texas</b>		
Guadalupe Mountains	Guadalupe Mountains National Park	46,850
<b>Virginia</b>		
Shenandoah	Shenandoah National Park	79,579
<b>Washington</b>		
Mount Rainier	Mount Rainier National Park	228,480
Olympic	Olympic National Park	876,669
Stephen Mather	North Cascades National Park	634,614
<b>TOTAL ACREAGE</b>		<b>44,046,895</b>



## National Wild and Scenic Rivers System

Rivers must meet eligibility and suitability criteria before being added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. For a river to be eligible, it must be in a free-flowing condition and possess one or more of the following values to a remarkable degree: scenic, recreation, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values. Suitability is based on the extent of public lands in the immediate environment of the river; funds required for acquisition, development, and management; and local or state interest in acting to protect and manage the river. Studies to determine eligibility and suitability may be the responsibility of either the Department of the Interior, Department of Agriculture, or the shared responsibility of both agencies. Wild and Scenic studies are presented to Congress with a Presidential recommendation. Congress then decides whether or not to add the river to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

A second path to designation, under Section 2(a)(ii) of the Wild and Scenic Act (1968), is for a governor to request Federal designation of a state designated Wild and Scenic River, and for the Secretary of the Interior, after study, to designate that river. Seventeen rivers have entered the System in this way.

There are 160 rivers in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Each mile of each river is classified as wild, scenic, or recreational. There are many governing agencies of these rivers: Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Service. The National Park Service administers, either solely or in conjunction with other agencies, the rivers in the following table.

Year	River	Wild	Scenic	Recreational	Total Miles
1968	St. Croix, MN & WI	-	181.0	19.0	200.0
1968	Wolf, WI	-	24.0	-	24.0
1972	St. Croix (lower), MN & WI	-	12.0	15.0	27.0
1976	St. Croix (lower), MN & WI	-	-	25.0	25.0
1976	Obed, TN	44.3	-	1.0	45.3
1976	Flathead, MT	97.9	40.7	80.4	219.0
1978	Rio Grande, TX	95.2	96.0	-	191.2
1978	Missouri, NE & SD	-	-	59.0	59.0
1978	Delaware (upper), NY & PA	-	25.1	50.3	75.4
1978	Delaware (middle), NJ & PA	-	35.0	-	35.0
1980	Alagnak, AK	-	-	-	67.0
1980	Alatna, AK	83.0	-	-	83.0
1980	Aniakchak, AK	63.0	-	-	63.0
1980	Charley, AK	208.0	-	-	208.0
1980	Chilikadotna, AK	11.0	-	-	11.0
1980	John, AK	52.0	-	-	52.0
1980	Kobuk, AK	110.0	-	-	110.0
1980	Mulchatna, AK	24.0	-	-	24.0
1980	Koyukuk (North Fork), AK	102.0	-	-	102.0
1980	Noatak, AK	330.0	-	-	330.0
1980	Salmon, AK	70.0	-	-	70.0
1980	Tinayguk, AK	44.0	-	-	44.0
1980	Tlikakila, AK	51.0	-	-	51.0
1981	Klamath, CA	-	-	1.0	1.0
1984	Tuolumne, CA	37.0	17.0	-	54.0
1986	Cache La Poudre, CO	12.0	-	-	12.0
1987	Merced, CA	53.0	14.0	14.0	81.0
1987	Kings, CA	49.0	-	6.5	55.5
1987	Kern, CA	27.0	-	-	27.0
1988	Bluestone, WV	-	10.0	-	10.0
1991	Missouri, NE & SD	-	-	39.0	39.0
1991	Niobrara, NE	-	76.0	28.0	104.0
1992	Great Egg Harbor, NJ	-	30.6	98.4	129.0
1993	Maurice, NJ	-	28.9	6.5	35.4
1994	Farmington (West Branch), CT	-	-	14.0	14.0
1996	Lamprey, NH	-	-	11.5	11.5
1999	Sudbury, Assabet, Concord, MA	-	14.9	14.1	29.0



Photo

Year	River	Wild	Scenic	Recreational	Total Miles
2000	Lamprey, NH	-	-	12.01	12.0
2000	Wekiva, FL	31.4	2.1	8.1	41.6
2000	White Clay Creek, DE & PA	-	24.0	166.0	190.0
2000	Delaware (lower), NJ & PA	1,1661.8	25.4	710.7	3,029.2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,323.6</b>	<b>656.7</b>	<b>1,379.5</b>	<b>5,991.10</b>

## National Trails System

The National Trails System, created by law in 1968, includes 14 national scenic trails, eight national historic trails, over 800 national recreation trails, and two side/connecting trails. Of the 22 national scenic and historic trails, the National Park Service provides trail-wide coordination for 16 trails. Together, these 22 trail corridors measure almost 40,000 miles in combined lengths, and cross 56 national park areas and 90 national forests. In addition, hundreds of miles of trails cross lands under the care of the Bureau of Land Management.

The National Park Service administers 16 of 22 scenic and historic trails in the National Park System. In FY 2000, trail operations totaled \$4.3 million. This funded all the trail field offices, with some funds reserved for national program activities. An additional \$614,000 was available through the NPS Challenge Cost-Share Program for partnership projects. In FY 2000, almost 100 National Trail System cost-share projects were matched three-to-one by partners. Volunteers serving these trails provided nearly 500,000 hours of labor.

Year (est.)	Trail	Length (miles)	States Crossed
1968	Appalachian NST	2,150	ME,NH,VT,MA,CT,NY,NJ, PA,MD,WV,VA,NC,TN,GA
1978	Oregon Trail	2,170	MO,KS,NE,WY,ID,OR
1978	Mormon Pioneer NHT	1,300	IL,IA,NE,WY,UT
1978	Lewis and Clark NHT	3,700	IL,MO,KS,NE,IA,SD, ND,MT,ID,WA,OR
1980	North Country NST	3,200	NY,PA,OH,MI,WI,MN,ND
1980	Overmountain Victory NHT	300	VA,TN,NC,SC
1980	Ice Age NST	1,000	WI
1983	Potomac Heritage NST	700	VA,MD,PA
1983	Natchez Trace NST	690	TN,AL,MS
1987	Santa Fe NHT	1,200	MO,KS,OK,CO,NM
1987	Trail of Tears NHT	1,800	TN,AL,MS,KY,IL,MO,AR,OK
1990	Juan Bautista de Anza NHT	1,200	AZ,CA
1990	California NHT	5,660	MO,KS,NE,WY,ID, UT,NV,CA,OR
1992	Pony Express NHT	1,970	MO,KS,NE,CO,WY,UT,NV,CA
1996	Selma to Montgomery NHT	54	AL
2000	Ala Kahakai NHT	175	HA

## Heritage Areas

The Heritage Area concept offers an innovative method for citizens, in partnership with Federal, state, and local governments, and non-profit and private sector interests, to develop a plan and an implementation strategy focused on conserving the special qualities of the local cultural landscape.

*A national heritage area* is a place designated by Congress, where natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. Through the conservation of discrete, intact cultural landscapes, the National Park Service seeks to preserve, in partnership with the local citizenry, a portion of the patchwork of American landscapes which helps to define the nationally significant American identity. There is no Federal ownership or management of the land or property.

## Archeological Sites

Archeological sites are locations that contain the remains of a variety of past human activities. Examples of such sites are the prehistoric structures, middens, and roadways in and around Chaco Culture National Historic Site in New Mexico; the ancient earthen mounds and villages at Hopewell Culture National Historic Site in Ohio and Ocmulgee National Monument in Georgia; the early historic European sites in Virginia, such as Jamestown National Historic Site, or in Massachusetts, parts of Boston National Historical Park; and later historic archeological structures and sites such as those at Independence National Historical Park in Pennsylvania.

The NPS estimates that there may be as many as 1.5 million archeological sites located within units of the National Park System. Of these, about 63,000 have been identified and about

National Heritage Area	State
America's Agricultural Heritage Partnership (Silos and Smokestacks)	IA
Augusta Canal National Heritage Area	CA
Automobile National Heritage Area	MI
Cache La Poudre River Corridor	CO
Cane River National Heritage Area	LA
Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor	PA
Essex National Heritage Area	MA
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area	NY
Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor	IL
John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor	MA/RI
National Coal Heritage	PA
Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor	OH
Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor	CT
Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area	PA
Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District	VA
South Carolina National Heritage Corridor	SC
Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area	TN

48,188 are recorded in our national archeological database.

The National Park Service is making a concerted effort to collect standardized information about all known sites into the national database. All known sites will be recorded eventually in the database.

The National Park Service has a national program of archeological inventory and annually identifies and collects information on about 1,000 to 2,000 new sites. The NPS does not normally withdraw sites from the inventory. For those that are damaged or destroyed, the NPS continues to care for the data and collections of artifacts and other materials from the sites.

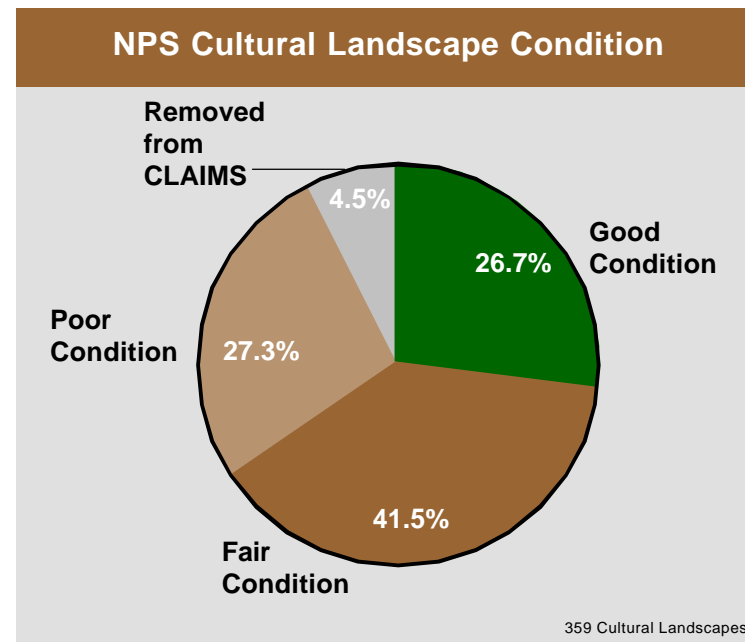
Of the recorded sites for which condition information is available, 38 percent are listed in “good” condition; however, this information is very incomplete and available for only about 31 percent of the nationally recorded sites. Based upon projects identified as necessary in approved park resource management plans, funding of over \$160 million is needed for archeological projects. Only a portion of this funding relates to maintenance work.

## Cultural Landscapes

A *cultural landscape* is a geographic area, including both natural and cultural resources, associated with a historic event, activity, or person. The National Park Service recognizes four types of cultural landscapes: historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, historic sites, and ethnographic landscapes.

Cultural landscapes are inventoried, and basic management information summarizing significance, impacts, condition, and approved treatments is collected and maintained in the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI). Information associated with the CLI is entered into the Cultural Landscapes Automated Inventory Management System (CLAIMS) to provide a computerized, analytical tool for assessing the information. The inventory process includes four levels: Level O - Park Reconnaissance Survey; Level I - Landscape Reconnaissance Survey; Level II - Landscape Analysis and Evaluation; and Level III - Feature Inventory and Assessment. This four-level process facilitates identifying the potential scope of cultural landscapes in a systematic manner, establishing priorities for further inventory and research, and responding to specific park management needs. The four levels correspond to a varying degree of effort and detail contained in the inventory.

In FY 2000, each National Park Service region prepared a six-year prioritized list of inventory projects as an addendum to their CLI Strategic Plan. As of the end of FY 2000, 2,743 cultural landscapes had been entered into CLAIMS at the following levels: Level O - 20,006; Level I - 548; Level II - 152; Level III - 184; and of an unknown level - 37. Of the 359 landscapes in the FY 1999 GPRA baseline, 26.7 percent are in good condition, 41.5 percent are in fair condition, 27.3 percent are in poor condition, and 4.5 percent have been removed from CLAIMS as of the end of FY 2000.



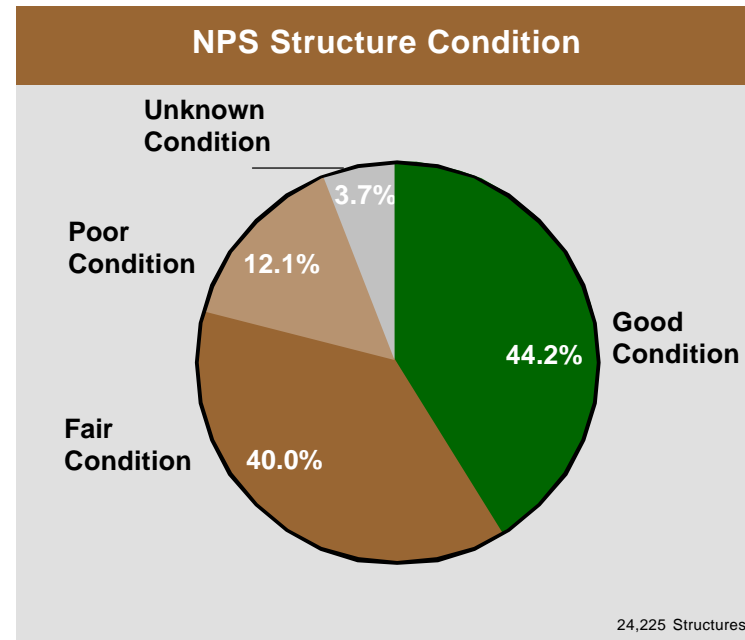
## Historic and Prehistoric Structures

The National Park Service defines a historic or prehistoric structure as “a constructed work . . . consciously created to serve some human activity.” Structures are usually immovable, although some have been relocated and others are mobile by design. They include buildings and monuments, dams, millraces and canals, nautical vessels, bridges, tunnels, and roads, railroad locomotives, rolling stock and track, stockades and fences, defensive works, temple mounds and kivas, ruins of all structural types that still have integrity as structures, and outdoor sculpture.

Beginning in FY 1992, the National Park Service commenced a multi-year project to update the List of Classified Structures (LCS) for the estimated 26,000-27,000 park historic and prehistoric structures. The LCS is the primary computerized database containing information about structures in which the National Park Service has or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest. Structures included in the LCS are either listed in or eligible for the National Register or are to be treated as cultural resources by law, policy, or decision reached through the planning process, even though they do not meet the National Register requirements.

As of the end of FY 2000, data on 25,507 historic and prehistoric structures in 373 parks have been updated. In the past fiscal year 1,502 structures were added to the inventory. Structures are deleted from the inventory as a result of physical destruction based upon a planned management action, or natural occurrence, or inventory error.

The condition of the historic and prehistoric structures (as shown in the chart below) is continually threatened by weather, structural deterioration, erosion, and vandalism. Of the 24,225 structures in the FY 1999 GPRA baseline, 44.2 percent are in good condition, 40 percent are in fair condition, 12.1 percent are in poor condition, and 3.7 percent are of unknown condition or were removed from the LCS as of the end of FY 1999.



The National Park Service takes actions such as maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, and/or changes the use of the structure to mitigate adverse effects to preserve and protect the structures for interpretation and continued use. Unfunded costs associated with treatments that have been approved by park planning documents for 25,507 inventoried structures total \$1,139.3 million the end of FY2000. Of these costs, \$810.1 million (71.1 percent) is for rehabilitation and preservation, and \$225.8 million (19.8 percent) is for stabilization.

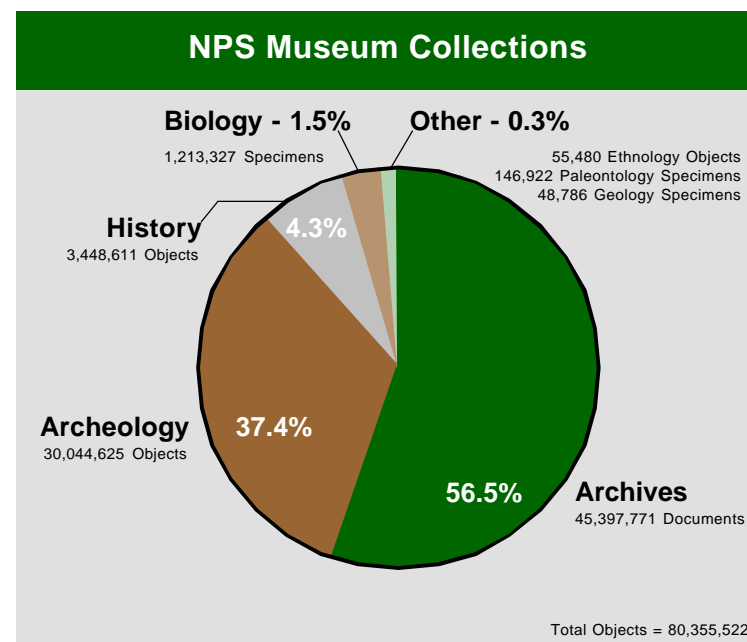
## Museum Collections

At the end of FY 1999, the most current information available shows that National Park Service museum collections totaled over 80 million items, 35 million objects and specimens, and 45 million archival documents. These collections support the interpretation of resources and significant events associated with NPS lands. The collections include items ranging from historic furnishings in the home of John Adams, to flags that flew over Fort Sumter, to Thomas Edison's handwritten notes on inventions, to the tools and furnishings of a working ranch in Montana, to botanical specimens from Yosemite, and archeological items from Mesa Verde. These museum collections are important not only individually, but also because of their direct association with the nationally significant sites within the National Park System.

The NPS acquires and documents collections that support the mission and scope of each park and uses those collections to increase public enjoyment and understanding of our heritage, and its associated values. Parks use the documentation associated with collections to make informed decisions about interpreting and managing these and other park resources. For example, the drawings and photographs in the collection at Frederick Law Olmsted NHS have enabled the park manager to make decisions about restoring the park's cultural landscape. The public has access to these collections through exhibits,

interpretive programs, publications, World Wide Web sites, films, and videos. For research purposes, the public can directly access information in collections catalogs and other databases, as well as access the collections themselves. Typically, parks respond to over 40,000 public research requests and park visitors view nearly 350,000 objects on exhibit annually.

In addition to collections stored at park units, six NPS cultural resource centers manage NPS museum collections. These facilities are the Southeast Archeological Center in Tallahassee, Florida; the Midwest Archeological Center in Lincoln, Nebraska; the Western Archeological and Conservation Center in Tucson, Arizona; the Museum Resource Center, in Greenbelt, Maryland; the Alaska Regional Curatorial Center, in Anchorage; and the Northeast Cultural Resources Center in Lowell, Massachusetts. Additionally, some of the collections are on loan to other Federal agencies and 142 non-Federal institutions.





In FY 1999, the National Park Service acquired over 4.4 million items through gifts, exchanges, purchases, field collections, and transfers. Acquisitions were in the disciplines of archeology, ethnology, history, archives, biology, paleontology, and geology. The NPS deaccessioned 14,597 items through exchanges, transfers, conveyances, losses, thefts, repatriation under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and other means.

As of FY 1999, 61 percent of the objects and specimens and 35 percent of the archives are cataloged. At current cataloging rates and funding levels, the collection will be cataloged in 2022.

Using the standardized National Park Service Checklist for Preservation and Protection of Museum Collections, parks assess the status of museum storage and exhibits relative to professional standards for environment, security, fire protection, housekeeping and planning. Parks take corrective actions as needed. Only 64 percent of the conditions in park museum collections meet these professional standards. An estimated 1,927 deficiencies were corrected in parks in FY 1999. At current funding levels for correction of deficiencies, 95 percent of the standards will be met in 2029.

National Park Service policy requires that parks complete collection condition surveys for all collections; however, this information is not quantified or aggregated at a Servicewide level. In FY 1998, the NPS designed a strategy to quantify condition information for collections and give priority to treatment of the most fragile, important, and heavily used items. Based on extrapolated data from 118 park resource management plans and the 1997 survey of cellulose nitrate film in NPS collections, conservation survey and treatment needs are estimated at over \$47 million.

## National Historic Landmarks

The Historic Sites Act of 1935 authorized the Secretary of the Interior to recognize historic places judged to have exceptional value to the nation. Once the Secretary designates a *national historic landmark*, its owners can apply for a landmark plaque. Owners are eligible to receive technical advice and assistance from preservation experts if needed.

National historic landmarks are identified by theme and special studies prepared or overseen by NPS historians and archeologists. Landmark designation is the Federal Government's official recognition of the national importance of historic properties.

On February 16, 2000, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt approved the designation of 18 properties in 16 states as national historic landmarks. On May 16, 2000, the Secretary approved the designation of 15 additional properties in 10 states and one boundary expansion to a previously designated national historic landmark. The chart on the following page lists the recently designated landmarks.

## FY 2000 National Historic Landmarks (and Locations)

### (February 16, 2000)

Rancho Camulos	Ventura County, CA
Shenandoah-Dives (Mayflower) Mill	San Juan County, CO
Grove Street Cemetery	New Haven, CT
Whitehall (Henry M. Flagler House)	Palm Beach, FL
Fort James Jackson	Chatham County, GA
Herndon Home	Atlanta, GA
Arthur Heurtley House	Oak Park, IL
Kennebec Arsenal	Augusta, ME
Bollman Truss Railroad Bridge	Howard County, MD
Scotterley	St. Mary's County, MD
Nathan and Polly Johnson Properties	New Bedford, MA
Fort St. Pierre Site	Warren County, MS
Abel and Mary Nicholson House	Salem County, NJ
Stonewall	New York, NY
Emmanuel Episcopal Church	Pittsburgh, PA
Mulberry Plantation	
(James and Mary Boykin Chesnut House)	Camden, SC
Highland Park Shopping Village	Highland Park, TX
George Washington's Boyhood Home Site	Fredericksburg, VA

### (May 16, 2000)

Portland Brownstone Quarries	Portland, CT
First Baptist Church	Columbus, IN
Irwin Union Bank and Trust	Columbus, IN
Miller House	Columbus, IN
North Christian Church	Columbus, IN
Labrot & Graham's Old Oscar Pepper Distillery	Woodford County, KY
Parker Cleaveland House	Brunswick, ME
Gropius House	Lincoln, MA
Sagamore Lodge	Hamilton County, NY
Santanoni Preserve	Essex County, NY
Columbia River Highway	Multnomah, Hood River & Wasco Counties, OR
I.N. and Bernardine Hagan House	Fayette County, PA
John N.A. Griswold House	Newport, RI
Rockingham Meeting House	Rockingham, VT
Socialist Labor Party Hall	Barre, VT

### FY 2000 NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK BOUNDARY EXPANSION

#### (May 16, 2000)

Great Northern Railway Buildings	West Glacier, MT
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## Paleontological Sites

While only eight National Park Service units were established primarily for their paleontological resources, significant fossil resources have been documented in 146 NPS areas. These areas preserve a diversity of fossils including plants ranging from microscopic algae to petrified logs and animals ranging from marine shells to dinosaurs, tracks, and burrows. Many of the fossil resources protected and interpreted within NPS units are of international significance and are critical to our understanding of the history of life on earth. National Park Service paleontologists and rangers often work with researchers from museums and universities to understand such fossil resources.

In order to enhance the quality of protection of fossil resources within National Park System units, the Geologic Resources Division (GRD) has established a position of program manager for paleontology. During FY 2000, scoping sessions were held at a number of parks in Alaska: Yukon-Charley Rivers, Katmai, Aniakchak, and Denali. At Wrangell-St. Elias, a preliminary paleontological reconnaissance was conducted to evaluate the Frederika Formation for Miocene fossils. Surveys at Arches and Zion in Utah have been completed, and final reports are being prepared for publication. Preliminary surveys were initiated at Joshua Tree and Santa Monica Mountains in California, Curecanti in Colorado, and at Big Bend in Texas. These projects are designed to assist parks in achieving *GPRA Goal 1a9A* for paleontological resources. These efforts are just the beginning of the GRD's long-term goal to assist park managers to manage and document paleontological resources at parks with fossils.

The GRD Paleontology Program also provided technical assistance to Channel Islands to aid in obtaining carbon 14 dates on newly discovered pygmy mammoths and to assist Petrified Forest in developing a plan to protect petrified wood from theft. The program has also worked to assist Yellowstone in mitigating impact to fossils during road construction at the east entrance. Big Bend also benefited from the program during the transfer of park dinosaur fossils to the Dallas Museum for storage and study. Assistance was also provided to Fossil Butte for the transfer of Green River Formation plant fossils from Brigham Young University to the park. The GRD paleontology program also worked with other Federal agencies such as the Bureau of Reclamation to conduct paleontological inventories at Red Fleet and Steinnaker Reservoirs in Utah.